

# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Volume 56, No. 6 November-December 1986

*"A Blessed and  
Merry Christmas  
to Everyone"*

*Clarence & Vivian*





# SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1985-1986

CHURCHES	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT
Belton	52	54	57	57	58	76	74	59	68	59	59	60
Bethel						107	90	95	88	88	90	101
Calvary Fellowship	202	217	195	187	192	249	241	190				
Cape Girardeau	79	67	57	57	49	66	67	46	41	48	40	51
Copper Mines	73	70	72	70	69	72	67	75				
Cuba	77	85	76	72								
DeSoto	182	177	175	176	169	190	194	174	177	192		
Farmington	771	662	621	636	584	753		603	578			
Flat River, First	173	166		166	148	174	169	164	150	149	146	157
Grace	207	179	176	169	159	204	165	149	146	131		155
Grant Avenue	102	98	92	96			116	82				
Hannon	79	78	70	73	77	71	72	74	72	74	85	70
Harmony	72	69	57	67	71	74		54	57	58	72	80
Hartville	90	96	93	89	92						85	
Houston	63	61	72	75	88	89	80	81	74	80	87	85
Jones Creek	22	21	14	27		33		21	25	20	20	
Monett	160	155	168	151	164	199	156	154	171	158		
Myrtle	47	46	44	42	38	42	42	41	40	37	37	38
New Life Fellowship	77	75		96	82	102				79		
Parkview	85	89	80	90	92	92	84	78	83		82	73
Richwoods	79	61	56	50	51	66	55	51	45	56	49	65
Rock Chapel	62	64	69	68	65	65	69	67	76	56	61	70
Thayer											127	140
United	87	94	94	85	100	94	93	75	89	100	80	
Victory, K.C.	43	50	46	45	47	64	54	46	48	41	41	47
West Plains, First	127	111	107	98	111	118	113	97	102	100		
Willow Springs	82	89	90	76	82	97		88			75	77



## Churches, People & Events

### NEW PASTOR AT WEST PLAINS 1ST CHURCH

Rev. & Mrs. Ronnie Blanks and their children, Richie, Jennifer and Ryan, have moved to West Plains, Missouri from Warren, Arkansas. Rev. Blanks is the newly elected pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church.

Prior to moving to West Plains, Brother Blanks served as pastor of the Willoughby Free Will Baptist Church in Warren, Arkansas. He served the church for eight years. His educational background includes a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tn.

Jo Beth Miller writes, "Brother Blanks and his family are working well with the church. We believe that he will serve well as our pastor."



Rev. Blanks and his family

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Clarence Burton, editor

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

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## CROSSROADS CHURCH OF WENTZVILLE PURCHASES PROPERTY

The Wentzville Mission, known as the Crossroads Free Will Baptist Church, is now located on Interstate 70 in Wentzville! It was purchased at the cost of \$117,500. On the property is a two-story home that has been converted into the sanctuary and classrooms.

On September 7, only two weeks after the purchase, the dedicated folks of Crossroads had renovated the big two car garage and turned it into a nice auditorium, fixed up the house, cleared out many trees and shrubs, cut all the grass, put up lights and got it all ready for opening day.

The opening day service was a tremendous joy! It was a wonderful feeling that now our church has its own property dedicated to the Lord. During the evening we commemorated our very first communion and feet washing service.

The garage auditorium will seat about 60 people. This does not leave us much room to grow and our next goal is to outgrow the building and move on to higher things. So far, in the month of October, we have averaged 52 and seen 3 salvation decisions. We also plan a very special "break the record" Sunday on October 26 with an Open House Sunday to show our town the new property and church house.

Again, let me say a big thank you to all those sharing in the support of the work in Wentzville. It is still needed and so appreciated! Also, special thanks to a dedicated State Home Mission Board under the able direction of Brother Cliff Bowman. Indeed, without their steadfast help through these months, the Wentzville work could not have progressed as it has done.



Wentzville Church property



Pastor Mertz and son, Matthew



Newly elected W.A. officers

## WOMAN'S AUXILIARY INSTALLATION AT ROCK CHAPEL

Mrs. Glenda Jones writes, regarding the recent Installation Service at the Rock Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, . . . I guess there are times when everyone feels inadequate for the job they perform, thinking that someone else could do it better. That's what I think of when I look at the picture of our local Woman's Auxiliary officers as they accept the responsibility placed upon them in the installation ceremony at our church. The exaggerated depiction of their particular office was displayed in a variety of ways.

Our president, Virginia Housley, wore the coat of leadership, only it was an old ragged affair that she customarily wears to the cow barn to do chores. Our vice-president, Phyllis Virtue, was shod with shoes especially for foot-work, but it was a pair of clumsy, over-sized tennys. Next came our secretary-treasurer, Lois McNutt, lugging a big briefcase too heavy for her arms to carry. Florence Housley, our benevolence chairman, carried a beautiful bouquet of . . . onions and weeds. Mission prayer chairman Evelyn Maines, mission study chairman Eugene Dobson, mission action chairman Patti Housley and historian Becky Jones wore equally ridiculous attire as they were challenged with their responsibilities.

Even though the job sometimes looks too big to these ladies, I think they are doing a fine job leading our auxiliary at Rock Chapel Free Will Baptist Church at Norwood, Missouri.

## ADVANCE CELEBRATION HAS BEGUN AT NUMBER ONE

Rev. Curtis Dowden, pastor, Number One Free Will Baptist Church, Huggins, Missouri, writes, Our church began its Advance Celebration. Each person made a silent pledge. A jar for the offerings was set up front each Sunday. Donna Crewse, four years old, was asked to put the money into the jar. As Sundays went by the folks didn't have to ask Donna, because she was meeting them at the door, asking if they had their 'money' for the jar.

Well, it is working well for it causes each one to stop and think, and give.



## NEW PASTOR AT RICHWOODS

Mrs. Edith Lewis, church reporter for the Richwoods Free Will Baptist Church, writes that the church has recently called Rev. Travis Harrison as pastor. Reverend Harrison was graduated from the Free Will Baptist Bible College in May of this year. He was a resident of Flat River prior to accepting the Richwoods Church.

Mrs. Lewis writes, "It is the prayer of the church that we will continue to win souls to Christ."

## DEDICATION AT BLACK OAK



Dedication Service

On Sunday, September 21, 1986, the Black Oak Free Will Baptist Church near Marshfield, Missouri held a Dedication Service. The church had recently undergone an expansion and remodeling program. The interior of the church auditorium was given a 'new look'. This was done by enlarging the seating capacity and giving a spacious look to the choir loft and pulpit. Accommodating classrooms were included in the expansion and an improved side entrance with provision for the handicapped.

Reverend Jack Day, pastor, gave a hearty welcome to the filled auditorium. He said, "What a great day this is. We have been planning and working for this for quite some time. It hasn't been easy, but it is worth it." He expressed sincere thanks to the church for its faithfulness in making this day and event possible. He then recognized Mr. & Mrs. Myers for the fine work the Myers Construction Company had done in the expansion and remodeling job.

Reverend Clarence Burton, state executive secretary, delivered the Dedicatory Message. He began his remarks by stating, "Jack and Fredia, you're right. The church does not look like the same on the inside." He stated further, "This is truly a day for rejoicing. Just as those, with King Solomon, rejoiced at the dedication of the Temple, even so may you rejoice this day, for this beautiful and accommodating building. The Lord has blessed you with this, and I believe you will use it for him as you live **steadfast, sound and solid** lives for His glory."

Reverend Day led in the Act of Dedication and Brother Lloyd Cleft, a deacon, led in the Prayer of Dedication.

A delicious dinner was enjoyed in the Fellowship Area on the lower level. Following the noon hour everyone enjoyed a time of singing and fellowship. The groups/individuals providing the special singing were:

The Layman Family, Carolyn Young, Sandra Rhyme, Luther Withers Gospel Group, Fredia Day, Black Oak Quartet, Shirley Sell, The Bill Ragsdale Family and Dean Mathis.



Officers of the Church for Prayer of Dedication



Jack and Fredia Day

## DEDICATION AT FREEMAN CHAPEL

Brother Vernon Maggart, pasor of the Freeman Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, writes, On October 12, 1986 our church dedicated its new auditorium addition and educational unit to the glory of our Lord. It was a real joy and privilege to have Brother and Sister Burton with us for this special service. Brother Burton preached the dedication message and the Lord certainly worked through him to challenge our hearts.

We were able because of God's power and blessings to construct our new addition in about five months using mostly church labor. Our people began building not knowing for sure when the project would be completed. We have some folks in our church who believe God has all power. I have pastored Freeman Chapel for fourteen years. My wife and I have led the church to believe that if you give it will be given to you. (Luke 6:38) Shortly before I became pastor, the church voted to send one half of the offering every first Sunday to foreign missions to send Jerry and Carol Pinkerton to the Ivory Coast. They have done this for fourteen years. Several years ago the Pinkertons were preparing to return to Africa and I challenged the church to give them \$2,000.00 to buy their plane tickets. Our people responded with an offering of



\$3,800.00 Last year about 40% of our total offerings went to outside giving. This included coop giving, foreign missions, Christian education and all benevolent work.

Freeman Chapel is located in the rural St. Joseph area. Our growth has not been phenomenal, but we have experienced a gradual growth. There has always been a spirit of love in our church and very sweet fellowship. I enjoy looking at Freeman Chapel sitting on top of that hill. The auditorium will seat 200 comfortably. We have 10 beautiful Sunday School rooms, a large kitchen, and a spacious fellowship area. The church has two separate heating and air conditioning units, and a wonderful PA system. The amazing thing about it is that Freeman Chapel is debt free. It is very plain to me that through the years, these precious folks have given of themselves and their possessions and God has given to them. Freeman Chapel is a testimony of God's power and of the fact that His people had a mind to work. We now **have** room to grow for the glory of our Savior. We hope that Free Will Baptists across Missouri will pray for us as we continue to build His church up here in the North West.



Freeman Chapel  
Auditorium



The pastor, Brother  
& Sister Boyer &  
Brother & Sister Coffey



The pastor, Orville &  
Wayne Kerns



The Pastor & family  
& daughter-in-law



Outside  
Freeman Chapel

## Katie Brown Home With The Lord

Jean Williams, church secretary at the Beacon Church in Raytown, Missouri writes, Memorial services for Kateryna (Katie) Brown were held August 26, 1986, at the Beacon Free Will Baptist Church.

Katie fought a courageous battle with cancer for 3½ years. She loved life, and with the help of her beloved Lord, lived it to its fullest, until He called her to her eternal home.

Her life lives on through her loving family, friends and church family. Her strength, courage and faith will never be forgotten.

*Editor's Note: I have known Katie for a number of years. She was a sweet and loving Christian lady. She will be missed.*

### A Tribute To Kateryna Kolody Brown

*(by one who knew her only in passing)*

#### "KATIE"

God is no respecter of persons,  
creating each new soul, the same;  
But some are destined to greatness;  
ascending to pinnacles of fame.  
Others choose just to be humble,  
and content to serve with a smile;  
Giving themselves in His service,  
and going the long second mile.

Katie was one who was chosen  
a special handmaiden to be;  
To give of herself for the Master,  
and still serve her own family.  
Her devotion and love knew no limits,  
her broad scope of service, no bound;  
Wherever the call was to duty,  
there Katie was sure to be found.

To hear of her was pure inspiration,  
to see her was courage defined;  
To know her, a privilege granted;  
to love her was silver refined.  
Her name in stone won't be leadened,  
nor her fame emblazoned in sky;  
Nor in archives, her history written  
—a credo for mankind to live by.

But in the lives of all those who knew her,  
in the confines of God's Promised Land;  
Good character was molded and fashioned  
by the loving soft touch of her hand.  
In patience she endured her Gethsemane,  
through pain, long-suffering, and woe;  
She served well her earthly probation,  
—and when He called, she was ready to go.

And so, this last brief tribute to Katie,  
who, release from her burdens has won;  
As she's broken mortality's shackles,  
—and new residence in Heaven begun.

Lucien Victor Amos  
August 26, 1986



## Changes In Guidelines For Competitive Activities

This past July, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the National Youth Conference adopted several changes to the **Guidelines for Competitive Activities and Music and Arts Festival**. In the interest of avoiding conflicts and facilitating competition, the Missouri State Sunday School/CTS Board would like to publish these changes. The new rules affect primarily Bible memorization, Sword Drill, and Music and Arts.

### Bible Memorization

The material that each grade must memorize has been reorganized. Each grouping is given below:

#### First Grade:

1. Psalm 23
2. Books of the Bible (Old and New Testament)
3. The Model Prayer (Matt. 6:9-13)

#### Second Grade:

1. All of the grade one material, plus:
2. Beatitudes (Matt. 5:3-12)
3. Twelve apostles (Luke 6:14-16)
4. Ten commandments

#### Third Grade:

1. All of the grade one and two materials, omitting the books of the Bible from level one and adding:
2. Bible Library (Books of the Bible recited by first giving the category, then listing of appropriate books)
3. Romans Road to Salvation
4. John 3:15-17

The judging of Bible memorization has been divided into four factors this year, rather than two, as in years past. The four factors are:

1. Memorization
2. Articulation
3. Eye contact. This year, contestants **must not** fix their gaze on a single individual in the audience.
4. Communication

### Bible Sword Drill

Contestants may place either hand on top of the Bible. The thumbs do not necessarily have to face the spine of the Bible, but **at no time prior to the command to "Charge" shall the thumb or fingers of either hand extend over the edge of the binding.**

### Music and Arts

Two new categories have been added to the Music and Arts Festival. These are Category Six (Large Ensembles, Bands/Orchestras) and Category Ten (Multi-Media). There have been expansions to three other categories as well. In Category Seven (Keyboard), there are now divisions for Manual and Electronic Keyboards, as well as a division for Keyboard Ensemble. Oral Communication has been expanded dramatically, including divisions for Extemporaneous Speech, Poetry, Interpretation of Scripture, Dramatic Duo, Readers' Theatre, and Skits. In Category Eleven (Creative Arts), divisions now exist for Graphics and Black and White photography, separate from Color photography.

Anyone desiring more information about the new guidelines can obtain a copy through Lebanon Bible

and Book Store, or by writing:

Randall House Publications  
114 Bush Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37217  
Attn: Jim Lauthern

Further clarification of the new Music and Arts Guidelines is available from the same source, or by contacting: Michael Walker, Box 124, Hartville, Mo. 66567. (417) 741-6157.

## Missing Gems

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## Essentials of Evangelism

by Stanley Jones

Is it unnatural for Christians to be fearful in sharing a gospel witness? In Acts 18:9, 10 we have an example of God anticipating the fear of the great Apostle Paul. The Lord instructed Paul, "Be not afraid."

What might Paul have been afraid of? In verse 10, Paul heard the Lord say, "No man shall set on thee to hurt thee." Could it be that Paul was as human as we are when it comes to being fearful of the reactions of men? That possibility must have been a real one for God to have sought to strengthen Paul.

But the real question is, "How can this fear be dealt with?" God told Paul to remember that he was not alone. Verse 10 says that God was with him. And there were many other faithful witnesses, too. What a comfort to know that the child of God has the strength of God's presence and the encouragement of all of God's people. We are not alone in this matter of witnessing.

Fear is negative. It causes us to hold our peace, as verse 9 points out. But how can we offset our tendency not to speak for the Lord? We must practice the positive action of speaking. Verse 9 says, "Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace." It's like the young child who fears the crowd at the music recital. Instead of giving in to fear, he chooses rather to occupy his mind with his music. And so he performs. Negative feelings are combated only with positive actions.

So, when fear seeks attention, we must turn to the presence of the Lord and lean on the encouragement of God's people, while we open our lips and share our witness for Christ.



# Loyalty In Stewardship

*1 Corinthians 3:23 - 4:7*

by Dale Skiles

"Moreover, it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful." You simply cannot build an effective church anywhere, anytime, with disloyal, unfaithful people.

The first thing in understanding "Loyalty in Stewardship" is to completely understand the terminology we are using. What is a Steward? "A steward is one who is in charge of the property belonging to another, and who will be called upon to give a complete account to the property owner in due time." Loyalty means, "faithful to love, promise or duty: true, devoted, constant." So then, "Loyalty in Stewardship" means: "The faithful, devoted, constant administration of the property belonging to someone else, that has been entrusted into our care and keeping, and for which we will be called upon, in due time, to give a complete account." There are 3 major areas of Loyalty in Stewardship so far as the Christian is concerned:

1. The Stewardship of Finances — This involves the material and physical aspect of stewardship.
2. The Stewardship of Faithfulness — This involves the Spiritual aspect of stewardship.
3. The Stewardship of Fruitfulness — This involves the Numerical aspect of stewardship.

**I. The Stewardship of Finances:** There are 3 pertinent questions about the Stewardship of Finances that must be answered by every Christian. And if we answer them scripturally and honestly they will revolutionize our thinking in the area of financial giving.

1. Is tithing both an Old Testament and a New Testament command?

a. First, let's examine the Old Testament command: Malachi 3:8-10. "Will a man rob God? Yet ye ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, and there shall not be room enough to receive it."

In the early Hebrew Tabernacle worship, as well as in the early Jewish Temple worship, the bringing of the tithe into the storehouse (and the tithe consisted of more than money; the fruit of the land, etc.) was a vital part of the people's worship and praise to God. The tithe in the Temple worship, especially, was commanded by God, because the Levites (the tribe of Levi, who was the priestly tribe, whose responsibility was to minister in the Temple worship, and offer the daily sacrifices for the people) were given no inheritance in the Promised Land, the Land of Canaan. And so, the other 11 tribes were commanded to give the tithe in support of the ministry of the Temple.

b. The New Testament command concerning the giving of the tithe: Matthew 23:23 "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the

other undone." 1 Cor. 16:2 "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." Vance Havner said, "Most Baptists when giving their offering each Sunday morning should sing, 'When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain'." The giving of the tithe is as much a part of the worship service as singing, praying or preaching. And the giving of the tithe, or the lack of giving it, may very well be the spiritual barometer that measures just how much, or how little, we have worshipped God.

Nothing is more blatantly ignored by many Christians in the fulfilling of the "Great Commission" of our Lord than the giving of the finances for which to do the job. "How can they preach except they be sent."

If every Christian family who belong, or are attending a Free Will Baptist Church in Missouri, would consistently and faithfully pay their tithes through the local church, and each local church would faithfully pay their 10% through the cooperative plan of support, we could completely underwrite our entire State financial program. And, if every Free Will Baptist would pay their back tithes, we could finance the program for the next generation to come.

Tithing is both an Old Testament and a New Testament command.

2. The second question is, Where are my tithes to be paid? Through the local church of which I am a member. You don't pay your tithes to some radio evangelist or TV evangelist, PTL Club or Sword of the Lord. There would be nothing but financial chaos if it were left up to each individual as to where he or she pays their tithes. "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse." The storehouse in the Old Testament was the Temple. It should be obvious that the storehouse in the New Testament is the local church.

In 1 Cor. 16:2 Paul tells us the When of the tithe: "On the first day of the week,"; the Who of the tithe, "Let every one of you,"; the Where of the tithe, "Lay by him in store,"; the How Much of the tithe, "As God has prospered him," (this is obviously percentage giving as it is given in proportion to how much God has prospered him). And then in the last part of the verse the writer talks about our accountability for the tithe, "That there be no gatherings when I come."

3. For what should the tithe be used? For the spreading of the gospel message of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth by every means available to us. This is not just local church financing, or favorite project financing, this is total cooperative financing; world wide financing.

Let me caution us all that not only will we answer to God for our Stewardship of the tithe, the 10% that He commands us to give to His service, but also the 90% that He allows us to keep.

If a man cannot be trusted with the tithe, he cannot be trusted with anything else: "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much. And he that is unjust in the least, is unjust also in much. If, therefore, ye have not been faithful in the unrighteousness mammon (money) who will commit unto your trust (stewardship) the true riches?" (Luke 16:10-11).

**II. The Stewardship of Faithfulness:** "Moreover is it REQUIRED in stewards that a man be found faithful." Faithfulness in the life of a Christian is not optional, it is a requirement. A requirement is an absolute must; a necessity.

(continued on page 8)



Paul recognized the importance of faithfulness: 2 Timothy 2:2 "And the things that thou has learned of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to FAITHFUL men, who shall be able to teach others also."

There are 3 areas of faithfulness that I call to our attention:

1. Faithfulness in Attendance: Hebrews 10:25 "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Faithfulness in our attendance to the services of the church, is a mark of our faithfulness and loyalty to God and to His cause. Free Will Baptist folks do not exhibit much loyalty to the church today. Almost any excuse is good enough for most folks to cause them to absent themselves from the services of the church.

Here in Hebrews 10, the writer deals with this matter of unfaithfulness. Notice some things that are spelled out very clearly:

a. Unfaithfulness is Serious: vss. 22 - 23 "Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering: (for he is faithful that promised;)" Recognizing God's faithfulness to us, we should be serious in our faithfulness to Him and to His church.

b. Unfaithfulness is Selfish: v. 24 "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." Those who are unfaithful in their attendance do not consider anyone's feelings but their own. They are selfish.

c. Unfaithfulness is Sinful: vs. 26 "For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins." In fact, unfaithfulness in church attendance is linked here to wilful sin and the committing of apostasy. I personally have noticed in 27 years of pastoring, that the first sign of a person backsliding is unfaithfulness to the church. Little wonder that the Holy Spirit deals with unfaithfulness in such a serious vein here in Hebrews 10.

2. Faithfulness in Attention: "Be still and know that I am God." Some folks just don't give God much of their attention. We need to pay attention. We need to listen as God speaks to us through His Word.

In 1 Samuel, chapter 3, we have the account of God first speaking to the young boy, Samuel. When Eli, the priest, recognized that it was the voice of God speaking to the young lad, he advised Samuel to answer: "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth."

Paul admonished young Timothy, "Till I come, give attendance (your full attention) to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine." Luke 19:48 "All the people were very attentive to hear him (Jesus)"

A member of my church asked me, "Preacher, why do you read the announcements when they are all printed in the bulletin?" I replied, "Because you folks don't pay attention." The most important message you and I will ever receive comes to us from God. We need to be faithful in our attention to Him.

3. Faithfulness in Attitude: It isn't enough just to be right; we need to be right in our attitudes. A person can do all the right things, and do them all for the wrong reasons, and be 100% wrong.

Right attitudes begin with right thinking: "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God . . . be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind (your thought patterns)." "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." "Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh." Gypsy Smith said, "A Christian needs to learn how to toughen his hide without hardening his heart."

We are stewards of each other. We need to make sure our attitudes toward each other are right. Read Romans, chapter 12, and notice such phrases as: "let love be without dissimulation (pretense)." "Be kindly affectioned one to another." "In honour preferring one another." "Given to hospitality." "Be of the same mind." "Live peaceably with all men."

Faithfulness in attitude toward each other may well be the most important part of our stewardship.

**III. The Stewardship of Fruitfulness:** A denominational figure in conducting a seminar at Missouri State Youth Camp once said, "My gift is not witnessing and winning souls; my gift is teaching." His gift evidently was teaching, because he was a brilliant teacher. However, witnessing, soul-winning is not a gift; it is a command to every Christian.

There is nothing that will bring such unspeakable and indescribable joy to the life of a Christian, quite like the joy of knowing that you have been instrumental in the leading of some lost soul to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bring his sheaves with him." "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." A lost person may not respond to the Romans Road alone; but who can resist the tears of one concerned for his soul?

The Great Commission of our Lord to go and disciple all nations, is given to every Christian.

Beloved, when we realize that we are stewards of men's souls, it adds new seriousness to this matter of the stewardship of fruitfulness.

The winning of the lost was paramount in importance to Jesus Christ. He said: "For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." If mankind had not been lost, He would not have come. He came for the express purpose that mankind through Him might be saved. (John 3:17).

Jesus said to His disciples, "Say not ye there are yet four months and then cometh harvest? (what a complacent attitude about the souls of men)" "Behold I say unto you; lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already unto harvest." And I daresay that if our Lord were standing in our midst today, He would say with even greater fervor and meaning, "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already unto harvest."

In John, chapter 15, Jesus talks to us, His disciples about the stewardship of fruitfulness:

1. The Source of Fruitfulness — "I am the true vine." v. 1.

2. Soundness in Fruitfulness — "Every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth." v. 2.

3. The Strength of Fruitfulness — "Abide in me and I in you." v. 4.

4. The Surety of Fruitfulness — "He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit." v. 5.



5. The Success in Fruitfulness — "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit." v. 8.

Brethren, Jesus said, "Occupy till I come." May we be faithful stewards of that occupancy.

*About the Writer: Dale Skiles has served as moderator of the Missouri State Association, and held other responsible positions. At present he is serving as chairman of the Youth Camp Board. He serves as pastor of the South Fremont Free Will Baptist Church and is supportive of the state and national ministries.*

## Points for Pastors

by James McAllister

Oh, I resigned the church, but it didn't seem like it was real. After twelve years of loving, crying, praying, preaching, and caring, it was impossible to believe it was coming to an end. How do I suddenly end everything when the church and its wonderful people have been everything to me and my family for twelve years? How do you turn off the involvement? How do you quit caring?

Well, I made it. All the tears, the dinners, the good-byes, selling the house, loading the truck, preaching the last series of sermons, rolling up the ball of yarn, the last board meeting, the last sad meeting with the church staff, packing the books and emptying the office, turning in the keys, the reception, the handshakes, hugs, the gifts, and suddenly it's all over. The lights go out—I'm no longer pastor of Farmington First Free Will Baptist Church.

And then it dawned on me. I have a country, but I don't have a church. I don't have a congregation. No one comes to me for help. No one asks my advice. The staff meet on Monday morning without me. A new church secretary took my wife's place in the office. I'm a has been in Farmington.

I cried a lot during those days. I went through a very traumatic time—the shock of realizing I really did it, I really resigned; the hurt of leaving home and all the people I loved; the fear of the unknown future; the unbelief of what I'd had the courage to do; the acceptance of my decision, position, and future.

It was a long trip to California. Even while driving the big truck the tears came often. What would I face in that far away place? Would I be accepted? Would I fail? Could God use me once again to build a big church? How would I do without those good deacons and trustees at Farmington? How could I get the job done without those four men on my staff? Would I ever find a congregation I loved like the First Church of Farmington?

The miles rolled by and sometimes I prayed, and sometimes I cried. But one thing was sure—I would never be the same. My life would never be the same.

Does this sound familiar preacher? Have you ever gone through these emotions? I think you have. For the next few issues I will write about changing pastorates. God bless you.



Faculty and student body FWBBC

## Bible College Enrolls 335 For Fall Semester

Nashville, Tennessee — Free Will Baptist Bible College enrolled 335 students from 25 states and five foreign countries in August to begin its fall semester, according to Dr. Charles Hampton, Registrar. Of these, 332 are undergraduates and three are enrolled in the graduate program.

## Bible College Seeking \$42,500 In Christmas Project

Nashville, Tennessee — Free Will Baptist Bible College has set a goal of \$42,500 for students and teachers to raise in the annual Christmas Project, according to Public Relations Director Paul Kettelman. Receipts from the Project help meet the college's \$660,000 general fund gift budget.

Last year, members of the college family raised a record \$60,079 during the mid-semester Christmas break.

## Bible College Plans Conference For Preachers, Teachers, Workers

Nashville, Tennessee — Free Will Baptist Bible College will host a Christian workers conference February 16 - 18 that will encompass the needs of preachers, teachers, women and other church workers, according to President Charles A. Thigpen.

This conference is a merger of the college's annual Christian Schools Conference and a pastors/church workers conference, and is intended to help promote "Target 90," the denomination's soul-winning/church growth emphasis. The two conferences will run concurrently, beginning on Monday evening and concluding on Wednesday evening.

Featured speakers for this enlarged conference will be:

- DR. ROBERT SUMNER: Evangelist and editor of **The Biblical Evangelist**, from Murfreesboro, Tn.
- ANNA SUE DARKES: Founder and executive director of Faith Venture Visuals.
- REV. LEROY WELCH: Pastor, Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, N.C.
- REV. DAVID SUTTON: Pastor, First Free Will Baptist Church, Ada, Ok.

(continued on page 10)



Other speakers will conduct seminars for preachers, teachers, women and other church workers.

Topics to be addressed will include church planting, personal soul-winning, sermon preparation, money and time management, family life for the Christian and much, much more.

Watch for further information, including a complete conference program and costs. Or, you may write:

Conference  
Free Will Baptist Bible College  
3606 West End Avenue  
Nashville, Tn. 37205-0117

## Need For Scholarship Sponsors At Hillsdale

Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College has instituted some new scholarship programs that will enable students to attend, writes Richard Gallent, Director of Development. The average amount is \$200.00 per semester. The money for this program must be raised above the regular budget.

Interested people across the denomination are asked to help with this program. Please pray about it, asking what the Lord would have you do and then, write out the check and mail it to Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, P.O. Box 7208, Moore, Ok. 73153.

## Randall House Announces 1987 Writers' Contest Rules

The tenth successive Writers' Contest is being sponsored by Randall House Publications, according to Dr. Roger C. Reeds, General Director.

The purpose of the Writers' Contest is to: (1) discover new talent, (2) afford expression to existing talent, (3) and give recognition and encouragement to superior talent.

The deadline for entries is March 16, 1987. Fees for each entry are \$10.00. Entries and fees should be directed to: Reverend Harrold D. Harrison, Writers' Contest Director, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, Tn. 37217. Checks should be made payable to Randall House Publications.

### RULES OF ENTRY

1. Any member of a church in the National Association of Free Will Baptists may enter.
2. Each entry must be religious in nature and the original, unpublished work of the contestant.
3. Entries must be typewritten; otherwise, they will not be considered. Each typewritten page should have 25 double-spaced lines of type. Each line should be approximately 70 spaces in length. The writer's name, address, and category of entry (Short Story, Poetry, etc.), as well as the approximate **total** number of words in the entry, are to be placed in the upper right-hand corner of the first page. Please adhere to the requirements listed under "CATEGORIES" as to the length of each entry in the six categories.

4. Entries must be postmarked no later than March 16, 1987. Those postmarked after March 16, 1987 will not be considered.
5. A contestant may submit **one** entry each in no more than **two** categories (the \$10.00 entry fee is required for each entry); however, entrant is eligible for first place in only one category. (Please do not send more than one entry in any one category and no more than two entries total.) All entries become the property of Randall House Publications.
6. Winners will be announced in press releases to editors of Free Will Baptist state papers, where applicable, and in **Contact Magazine**.
7. Winning entries may be published; space, time, and priorities permitting.

### CATEGORIES

1. **Exegesis/Sermon.** Each exegesis should develop a brief passage of Scripture, not to exceed 15 verses in length. Each entry should be at least 10 pages in length, but not more than 14 pages. Sermon text and subject are left to the discretion of the writer. Outlining is suggested, but not mandatory.
2. **Short Story.** A short story should not exceed 25 typewritten pages in length.
3. **Poetry.** Poetry entries should consist of rhymed or unrhymed verses of not more than 100 lines which develop a central theme or image.
4. **Tract.** Gospel tracts or tracts on special spiritual subjects are acceptable. These should be short enough to be published in the usual tract format: not more than four pages.
5. **Plays/Skits.** Not to exceed 14 pages in length, plays or skits should contain plot, theme, dialogue, characterization, setting, suggested set design, and state directions.
6. **Book.** A book entry may be of any nature as long as it serves a religious purpose. Suggestions include devotional guides, novels, commentaries, guides to practical Christian living, etc. Length should not be less than 50,000 or more than 90,000 words. **Only book entries accepted for publication will receive awards.**

### CRITERIA

Entries will be judged on the basis of contestant's creativity, composition techniques, originality, expertise of the literary or art form selected, impact, and theme content.

### AWARDS

In each of the categories except books, the awards are:

1. **Sermon** — \$25.00, 1st Place. \$10.00, 2nd Place.
2. **Short Story** — \$25.00, 1st Place. \$10.00, 2nd Place.
3. **Poetry** — \$10.00, 1st Place. \$5.00, 2nd Place.
4. **Tract** — \$10.00, 1st Place. \$5.00, 2nd Place.
5. **Play/Skits** — \$25.00, 1st Place. \$15.00, 2nd Place.
6. **Book accepted for publication** — \$250.00, 1st Place, plus Randall House royalty contract. \$250.00, 2nd Place.





Charolette Tallent and Clarence Burton

## An Interview With Charolette Tallent

While Charlotte Tallent was doing itinerant work in our area, we had the privilege of having her in our home for a few days. While visiting with us I had this interview with her.

**Burton:** How long have you been serving as a missionary in France and can you share with me some of your first impressions and experiences?

**Tallent:** I served as a summer missionary in 1974. I just completed my second term. So, it has covered a span of twelve years. When I began my work in France I worked with the Joe Haas Family. My work consisted of working with university students, and I helped Barb with a Children's Bible Class. I was amazed that over three-fourths of the class (25 pupils) did not have a Bible in their home. Consequently, most of the children had never heard many of the very simple Bible Stories.

**Burton:** Was there a noticeable difference in your first and second term as to opportunities and restrictions?

**Tallent:** One difference was - I had permission for a Bible Class the first term but did not the second. It seems that 'City Hall' did not think I would have many pupils in class. But when, in fact, I did, a strong complaint was initiated by the Catholics in that part of the city. So a restriction was placed on that ministry.

**Burton:** Charolette, I am sure you have been asked this before but for the benefit of our **Gem** readers - does the single missionary have unusual problems?

**Tallent:** Actually, I see more positive benefits than negative. There is a slight strain when entertaining a national couple or family, because the husband may not feel included. So, I have endeavored to make the couple or family feel very much at home, in my home, and it works. Also, I usually include a missionary couple in the first visit in order that a proper acquaintance can be established.

**Burton:** Now, let's get into one of the necessary and sometimes very tiring labors of the missionary - the itinerant to raise financial support. How do you think this could be done most effectively?

**Tallent:** Well, the less miles the missionary travels, obviously, the less expense. Because of this I would like to raise most of my financial support in Missouri. My folks live in Missouri - I have lived most of my life in Missouri. It is also encouraging to the missionary to know that folks at home are with you in prayer and support.

**Burton:** Approximately how much does it cost the account of the missionary to raise, say, \$100?

**Tallent:** It actually costs the missionary account approximately \$200 to raise \$100.

**Burton:** Then it costs \$2.00 to raise \$1.00.

**Tallent:** Yes. Let me give an example. It may not always work this way. But, in many cases it will. If I have three services and I receive an average of \$100 each service. That's \$300. If I travel a total of 1,000 miles for these three services, that will cost my account \$200. So, for the three services I have put in my account \$100.

**Burton:** Would you suggest some ways that everyone, child or adult can give.

**Tallent:** Many people follow the "Faith Promise" plan. But some look at this as if it were a monthly bill, and do not want to extend themselves, as such. So, the "Quarter Card" is used effectively, and frequently, "The Missionary Picture Jar" is used effectively also. Then there is the "Snack-Offering" (Give ½ of what is spent for soft drink, chips, etc.).

**Burton:** How do you envision the state of Missouri developing a regionalized plan of support?

**Tallent:** Let me give a combination of ways. Include in the church budget an amount for missionary giving above cooperative giving. Each District Association have a Missionary Committee to plan an annual Missionary Conference. This committee could also make the association aware of the missionaries' needs. The local church could also have a Missions Committee to keep the church informed of the missionaries needs. (A Prayer & Praise sheet will be supplied by the Foreign Missions Office to be read and to be placed on the Church Bulletin Board.) The committee would try and get every church member on the Heartbeat mailing list. The local church would plan a weekend conference with a Missionary Brunch for the ladies on Saturday; A Teen Time on Saturday afternoon (just for the teens and Missionary); and something everyone enjoys, an International Banquet.

**Burton:** Do you have any remarks you would like to make in summary?

**Tallent:** Yes, I would like to thank the people of Missouri for their faithful support they have given - prayer - financial and personal encouragement. I can surely say to the people of Missouri, with the Apostle Paul as He wrote to the Christians, at Phillipi, "Not because I desire a gift, but I desire fruit that may abound to your account." (Ph. 4:17). In Lorient, France there is fruit to your account!





## A Thank You Letter From Judy Lytle

**Dear Sisters,**

I enjoyed so much being with you at the Ladies' Retreat in September. This was my first retreat in Mo. and it was very special to me.

I went to the retreat prepared to share what the Lord had placed on my heart, and I trust that it was a benefit and blessing to you.

However, I believe you were a greater blessing to me. The fellowship was just a touch of what Heaven will be like. The spiritual blessings I received were many. I was speechless when I heard the total of the missionary offering for our accounts. All of these blessings were more than I deserved or hoped for. Then on Friday evening you surprised Charolette and me with a personal shower! Well, it was almost more than my heart could take. "Thank you" seems so inadequate, but I do thank you and appreciate you. I'll cherish the many, many gifts you gave me. It was amazing! Everything fit perfectly. I love it all from dresses, night wear, panty hose, underwear, money, gift certificates, soap, make-up, purses, tooth paste, sweaters, blouses, skirts, stationery, baskets, Tupperware, shampoo, perfume, nail polish, material, powder, wallet, pens, albums, towels, deodorant, hand lotion, tissues, travel kit, make-up bags, and even the "Missouri chigger". I wanted to send personal thank you's, but in the packing and repacking the cards have been separated from the gifts. So please accept this note as a sincere "thank you" for what you have done for us; but most importantly, thank you for being who you are.

May God continue to richly bless you. I look forward to seeing many of you again the first of next year when we will be in the Missouri area for mission services.



Charolette and Judy with gifts

## Thanks From Charolette Tallent

**Dear Ladies,**

Only one statement could be appropriate when reflecting upon the weekend enjoyed at the State Woman's Auxiliary Retreat, September 12 and 13 . . . HATS OFF TO THE MISSOURI LADIES!!! It was indeed a memorable two days in the renewal of old acquaintances and the making of new ones. I thoroughly enjoyed sharing the program with another Missouri gal, Judy Lytle.

In looking back over those days, or more so looking into my closet, I am still overwhelmed with joy over the lavished personal shower given to Judy and I. We will not be in want for a long time for bath soap (87 bars), toothpaste (31 tubes) and pantyhose (57 pair).

A Hearty Thanks is extended to you for your thoughtfulness and generosity for both the personal gifts and money gifts. I wish that I could sew into the clothes items little labels indicating from which church they came so as to remember always, and let them serve as a constant reminder of your love and generosity. Yet minus those labels, you can be sure that you will be remembered.

I am ever so thankful for your faithful prayers and financial support from the Missouri Ladies, over my years of service in France. The reality of being in France would be lessened, were it not for the faithful support of the WNAC. Thank you also for the \$600.00 given at retreat, in a special offering to my missionary account.

May the Lord richly bless you as together, in our united ministry in France, "fruit will be credited to your account".



Ladies in line for lunch



Charolette tipping her "many dollar" hat



## With Our Missionaries

**The Reeves in Spain:** We have been in Spain now for three weeks and we are adjusting fine (I think). We came to Spain because of God's direction and as I look around I can better understand His leading . . . Thanks so much for the continuous support. There are so many around us that need to hear a witness for Christ.

**The Vandivorts in Arizona:** God gave us a wonderful 1986 Youth Camp with solid Bible studies and Spirit-filled evangelistic services . . . If you would like a project, a good van would be a wonderful asset to our Mission Church . . . Pray that we will not miss the unique opportunities to influence others for Jesus.

**The Pinkertons in Africa:** Last November we moved to Doropo to help. Lord willing, when the Lees' return, we'll move back to Tanda. Pray and Give so the Robert Wests' can soon come and assist the Doropo Church and do the needed work on the hospital station . . . I wish you could have witnessed our last Doctrine Class at Doropo. There were 18 women present. They are so precious. They have made my life richer . . . and I pray their's is richer because of the Truths they've learned about the Lord. Thanks for your financial and prayer support.

**The Fulchers in Houston, Texas:** God has been so good to us this past month. We have seen two people saved and five rededications. Our offerings have increased and it is evident that there is more interest among the people in the Lord's work . . . Please help if you can. We are about \$3,000 in the red. Any amount that God lays on your heart will really be appreciated. God bless you as you help us.

**The Bunch Family in Panama:** On August 9th we took a delegation of people to Buenos Aires Mission. There were well over 200 in attendance. There seems to be a gentle awakening of the people here in Panama . . . We appreciate your support and each one of you for your cards and letters. Don't stop sending the mail for we love to hear from you.

**The Baileys in Japan:** We've been seeing unsaved people attending Sunday morning worship services at Adachi Church for the last seven weeks. Please pray for Rev. Matsumoto and me as we preach, that God will use the message to convict hearts. Our Adachi Church will be having a Baptismal Service soon. Three people will be baptized. We appreciate the prayers and additional support given at this time. As the American dollar continues to lose value against the Japanese yen our account is being drained more and more each month.

## Len Blanchard Enters Ministry Of Evangelism

Brother Blanchard recently left the pastorate, having pastored in Lyons, Georgia for four years. He states, "I have known for eight or nine years that evangelism would be my ministry. I did pastoral work in order that I might be able to understand a pastor's heart."

He may be contacted at Rt. 6, Box 689C, Sylacauga, AL., 35150. Phone (205) 249-4019.

## Eustace Riggs Enters Ministry Of Evangelism

Brother Riggs has served as a pastor for twenty-four years in Alabama, Tennessee, Missouri and Kansas. He has served as an evangelist for thirteen years, preaching revivals from the east coast to the Mid-west.

He may be contacted at Rt. 1, Box 184, Russellville, AL., 35653. Phone (205) 332-0716.

## Financial Information

### COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS AUGUST 1986

18.50% Mo. State Home Missions . . . . .	\$3,691.16
17.00% Executive Department and Gem . . . . .	3,391.87
3.50% General Fund . . . . .	698.33
10.50% Youth Camp . . . . .	2,094.98
1.75% C.E. Board . . . . .	349.16
1.75% SS & CTS Board . . . . .	349.16
2.50% Retirement Village . . . . .	498.81
5.00% Mo. State Ret. Program . . . . .	997.61
39.50% Nat'l. Assoc. & Hillsdale . . . . .	7,881.12
(Hillsdale 6.00%...\$1,197.13)	
Executive Department	
Free Will Baptist Bible College	
National Home Missions	
Foreign Missions	
National Board of Retirement & Ins.	
Layman's Board	
Theological Commission	
Radio & TV Commission	
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>\$19,952.20</b>

salvation of souls and establishing of Christians. May the Lord continue to bless this unified giving, for His glory.

### AUGUST 1986 RECEIPTS COOPERATIVE AND DESIGNATED

Parkview . . . . .	\$ 273.40
Carthage . . . . .	55.00
New Hope . . . . .	411.79
Farmington . . . . .	1,350.00
Mill Creek . . . . .	153.25
Houston . . . . .	234.05
Hartville . . . . .	193.50
Bethel . . . . .	401.00
Grant Avenue . . . . .	667.93
Mt. Zion, Gower . . . . .	82.70
Columbia . . . . .	25.00
Oak Hill, Union . . . . .	146.00
Fordland . . . . .	465.00
Black Oak . . . . .	10.00
Willow Springs . . . . .	268.25
Cuba . . . . .	201.62
Merl's Chapel . . . . .	55.96
United . . . . .	301.40
Springfield, First . . . . .	612.10
Macedonia . . . . .	20.00

Crossroads, Wentzville . . . . .	216.00
Hopewell . . . . .	197.00
Royal Oak . . . . .	89.00
Victory, Alton . . . . .	171.00
Mine La Motte . . . . .	29.49
Freeman Chapel . . . . .	135.60
Belton . . . . .	303.60
Leadington . . . . .	500.00
Thayer . . . . .	405.00
Joplin . . . . .	711.42
Neosho . . . . .	71.25
Hannon . . . . .	223.03
Rock Chapel . . . . .	237.20
Hurryville . . . . .	165.00
West Plains, First . . . . .	123.93
St. Francois District . . . . .	22.50
Marshfield . . . . .	140.02
Pleasant Ridge . . . . .	69.00
Eastern Gate . . . . .	157.00
El Dorado Springs, First . . . . .	5.00
Union Grove . . . . .	148.00
Tyrone . . . . .	33.59
Mountain Valley . . . . .	203.36
Mountain Valley . . . . .	202.50
Gospel Light . . . . .	210.00
Flat River, First . . . . .	573.54
Trinity . . . . .	656.82
Berean . . . . .	18.27

With total recognition, that cooperative gifts come from the Lord as He moves through faithful pastors and churches, we Thank Him. It is always a thrill to realize that cooperative giving shares in a total state, national and world-wide ministry for the



Berkeley	484.53
Monett	653.06
DeSoto	730.00
Happy Home	173.87
Pleasant Home	314.87
Friendship	121.15
Fredericktown, First	267.00
Copper Mines	168.28
New Life, Licking	212.06
Salem	30.00
Calvary Fellowship	574.17
Black Oak	10.00
Grace	766.00
Wolf Creek	224.85
Waynesville	160.66
Pleasant Hill	49.04
Seymour	110.00
Olivet	300.00
Lingo	41.85
Terrill Road	112.00
Grant Avenue	551.86
New Hope	244.45
Byrd	10.00
South Fremont	334.00
Willow Springs	190.93
New Rock Springs	78.53
Fred & Beverly Harris	43.85
New Home	92.94
Unity	342.64
Lebanon, First	143.70
Cape Girardeau	469.84
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,952.20</b>

#### MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS

Carthage	\$ 200.00
Farmington	75.00
Bethel	124.00
Grant Avenue	63.00
Columbia	5.00
Blue Springs	10.00
Fordland	5.00
United	23.68
Leadington	105.00
Carl Layman	10.00
J.W. Rader	25.00
Belton	25.00
Neosho	20.00
Hannon	123.01
Marshfield	19.00
Pleasant Ridge	10.00
Eastern Gate	25.00
Flat River, First	3.50
Trinity	55.00
Berkeley	16.00
DeSoto	50.00
Pleasant Home	5.00
Unity	100.00
Youth Camp Pre-Teen	109.62
Houston	35.40
A.C. Kennedy	10.00
Calvary Fellowship	106.66
South Fremont	5.00
Monett	171.68
Thayer	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,560.55</b>

#### NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Farmington	35.00
Bethel	80.00
Grant Avenue	147.00
Columbia	44.27
Fordland	20.00
Merl's Chapel	62.00
United	5.00
South East Dist. Ass'n	50.00
Leadington	115.00
Union	45.00
Thayer	61.00
Neosho	15.00
C. Hoover	5.00
Rock Chapel	162.41
Royal Oak	202.56
Marshfield	5.00
Trinity	10.00
Berkeley	125.00
Monett	98.00
DeSoto	702.00
Pleasant Home	90.00
Houston	20.00
A.C. Kennedy	10.00
Calvary Fellowship	38.33
Black Oak	101.21
Wolf Creek	10.00
Bob Keith	10.00
Rolla	50.00
Crossroads, Wentzville	13.00
South Fremont	42.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,373.78</b>

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS

Carthage	\$ 45.00
New Hope	117.72
Farmington	359.00
Grant Avenue	322.00
Bethel	25.00
Columbia	54.28
Fordland	82.00
Black Oak	93.82
Merl's Chapel	100.00
United	18.68
Union	45.00
Niangua	51.90
Leadington	235.00
Freeman Chapel	279.22
Belton	25.00
Thayer	63.00
Neosho	245.00
Pleasant Ridge	150.00
Hannon	301.96
Rock Chapel	10.00
Lebanon, First	60.00
Marshfield	5.00
Flat River, First	10.00
Trinity	157.00
Berkeley	60.00
Monett	1,541.12
DeSoto	250.00
Faith Chapel	10.00
Pleasant Home	24.00
Unity	200.00
Houston	10.00
A.C. Kennedy	15.00
Calvary Fellowship	807.65
Olivet	50.00
Terrill Road	20.00
Fourth	125.00
South Fremont	80.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,048.35</b>

#### FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Farmington	\$120.00
Fordland	5.00
Leadington	20.00
Thayer	20.00
DeSoto	35.00
Calvary Fellowship	83.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$283.33</b>

#### YOUTH CAMP

Farmington	\$ 40.00
Bethel	25.00
Fordland	20.00
Willow Springs	20.00
Leadington	20.00
Victory Alton	25.00
Thayer	25.00
Hannon	15.00
Berkeley	25.00
DeSoto	50.00
Unity	100.00
Bethel, El Dorado	13.88
New Life, Licking	10.00
Calvary Fellowship	65.83
Buffalo	50.00
Wolf Creek	10.00
Olivet	25.00
New Rock Springs	10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$549.71</b>

#### NAT'L BOARD OF RETIREMENT & INS.

Grant Avenue	\$3.00
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#### CHILDREN'S HOME

DeSoto	\$50.00
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#### HILLSDALE COLLEGE

Farmington	\$120.00
Grant Avenue	18.00
Willow Springs	40.00
Thayer	20.00
Hannon	50.00
Calvary Fellowship	41.66
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$289.66</b>

#### COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS SEPTEMBER 1986

18.50% Mo. State Home Missions	\$ 4,976.89
17.00% Executive Department & Gem	4,573.36
3.50% General Fund	941.57
10.50% Youth Camp	2,824.72
1.75% C.E. Board	470.79
1.75% SS & CTS	470.79
2.50% Retirement Village	672.55

5.00% Mo. State Ret. Program	1,345.11
39.50% Nat'l. Assoc. & Hillsdale	10,626.33
(Hillsdale 6.00%...1,614.13)	
Executive Department	
Free Will Baptist Bible College	
National Home Missions	
Foreign Missions	
Nat'l. Board of Retirement & Ins.	
Layman's Board	
Theological Commission	
Radio & TV Commission	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,902.11</b>

We thank the Lord for a good month to cooperative giving. May the Lord continue to bless as you continue to give.

#### COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS SEPTEMBER 1986

Fordland	\$ 714.50
Calvary Fellowship	574.17
Leadington	600.00
Mt. Pisgah	130.00
Springfield, First	799.48
Hannon	319.19
Tyrone	41.35
Harmony	404.00
Bethel	503.00
Seymour	139.00
Farmington	1,350.00
Victory, Alton	223.00
Belton	562.61
Hartville	269.23
Macedonia	20.00
Union Grove	131.00
Pleasant Ridge	84.00
Mill Creek	196.49
Carthage	60.00
Houston	296.62
New Life Fellowship	476.00
Thayer	481.00
Myrtle	164.70
Merl's Chapel	63.40
Flat River, First	735.94
Royal Oak	92.00
Number One	47.69
Lebanon, First	423.00
Fredericktown, First	335.00
Mountain Grove, First	830.66
Terrill Road	101.00
Hazel Creek	418.78
Gospel Light	141.00
Columbia	25.00
Verdella	187.98
Verdella	154.83
Hurricane	80.00
Marshfield	179.39
Mine La Motte	36.41
United	392.05
Lone Star	34.10
Cope	38.71
New Harmony	16.68
Eastern Gate	193.00
Happy Home	120.00
Mt. Zion, Gower	70.52
Kirksville, First	72.40
Walnut Grove	174.89
Jones Chapel	337.49
Neosho	71.25
West Plains, First	149.53
Liberty	650.00
Trinity	822.12
Koshkonong	190.00
Crossroads, Wentzville	260.00
Oskaloosa	84.38
Freeman Chapel	197.91
El Dorado, First	5.00
Calvary, Conway	160.00
Grace	1,113.00
Cabool	283.51
Cabool	283.52
New Life, Licking	291.34
Copper Mines	228.13
Mountain Grove, First	728.14
Mountain Grove, First	968.17
Waynesville	684.11
Wolf Creek	177.95
DeSoto	270.03
Parkview	1,000.00
Jones Creek	346.40
Black Oak	80.00
Rock Chapel	10.00
Pleasant Home	362.52
Lingo	292.31
Koshkonong	51.86
	60.00



Pleasant Hill	59.43
Twin Oak	640.00
New Hope	354.31
Grant Avenue	642.05
Fred & Beverly Harris	21.01
Byrd	10.00
New Rock Springs	79.35
Monett	727.74
Unity	261.71
Cape Girardeau	444.07
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,902.11</b>

#### YOUTH CAMP

Calvary Fellowship	\$ 65.83
Mt. Pisgah	10.00
Hannon	15.00
Fordland	20.00
Bethel	25.00
Farmington	40.00
Victory, Alton	25.00
Thayer	25.00
Leadington	20.00
Myrtle	20.00
Lebanon, First	16.33
Verdella	20.00
Trinity	30.00
Oskaloosa	30.00
Bethel, El Dorado	13.88
Buffalo	50.00
New Life, Licking	10.00
Mountain Grove, First	30.00
DeSoto	50.00
New Rock Springs	10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$526.04</b>

#### CHILDREN'S HOME

DeSoto	\$50.00
Myrtle	5.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$55.20</b>

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS

Leadington	\$ 240.00
Calvary Fellowship	860.65
Hannon	769.19
Brent & Cindy Thompson	50.00
Clifford Hoover	30.00
South Side	85.00
Harmony	5.00
Fordland	142.00
Bethel	98.00
Farmington	392.00
Belton	25.00
Niangua	62.65
Kirksville	80.00
Pleasant Ridge	20.00
Houston	58.00
Thayer	50.00
Myrtle	70.00
Merl's Chapel	100.00
Parkview	50.00
Flat River	10.00
Union	25.00
Blue Springs	40.00
Lebanon, First	60.00
Columbia	51.00
Mountain Grove, First	798.42
Terrill Road	50.00
Verdella	1,063.54
Joplin	35.00
Victory, K.C.	90.00
United	25.00
O'Fallon	15.00
New Harmony	111.18
Neosho	278.00
West Plains, First	50.00
Liberty	450.00
Trinity	24.00
Oskaloosa	164.72
Freeman Chapel	350.00
DeSoto	250.00
Calvary Chapel	75.00
Black Oak	122.86
Rock Chapel	20.00
Union Grove	101.00
Pleasant Home	15.00
Faith Chapel	10.00
New Hope	35.43
Fourth	105.00
Grant Avenue	186.00
A.C. Kennedy	30.00
Monett	1,129.73
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,958.37</b>

#### HILLSDALE COLLEGE

Calvary Fellowship	\$ 41.66
Hannon	50.00
Farmington	120.00
Thayer	20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$231.66</b>

#### NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Leadington	\$ 235.00
Calvary Fellowship	38.33
Mt. Pisgah	50.00
Fordland	10.00
Harmony	35.00
Bethel	35.00
Farmington	255.00
South East Dist. Ass'n	50.00
Houston	15.00
Thayer	199.75
Myrtle	157.00
Neosho	15.00
Merl's Chapel	72.00
Unity	5.00
Parkview	10.00
Flat River, First	65.00
Union	25.00
Lebanon	50.00
Mountain Grove, First	295.32
Terrill Road	5.00
Wolf Creek	10.00
DeSoto	200.00
Rock Chapel	171.48
Pleasant Home	228.40
A.C. Kennedy	20.00
Monett	312.70
Columbia	41.00
Verdella	160.00
Joplin	25.00
Victory, K.C.	93.00
George Matthews	5.00
D. Barnhouse	5.00
Bob & Glenda Keith	10.00
United	33.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,936.98</b>

#### FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Calvary Fellowship	\$ 83.33
Farmington	120.00
Thayer	20.00
Parkview	5.00
Mountain Grove, First	105.00
DeSoto	35.00
Grant Avenue	10.00
Leadington	20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$398.33</b>

#### MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS

Leadington	\$ 140.00
Calvary Fellowship	101.66
Hannon	173.42
South Side	7.00
Harmony	10.00
Bethel	80.00
Farmington	80.00
Belton	25.00
Pleasant Ridge	10.00
Thayer	38.00
Cape Girardeau	84.72
Myrtle	65.00
Unity	10.00
Flat River, First	2.00
Blue Springs	10.00
Mountain Grove, First	39.50
Terrill Road	5.00
Columbia	5.00
Joplin	40.00
Victory L.C.	180.00
Marshfield	17.93
United	30.00
O'Fallon	15.00
New Harmony	55.60
Eastern Gate	25.00
Mt. Zion, Gower	25.00
Neosho	20.00
Liberty	200.00
Trinity	103.00
Mountain Grove, First	101.50
DeSoto	50.00
Carl Laymen	10.00
J.W. Rader	25.00
Pleasant Home	5.00
A.C. Kennedy	20.00
Grant Avenue	44.00
Monett	99.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,953.72</b>

#### MO. STATE HOME MISSIONS REPORT APRIL - JUNE 1986

Beacon	\$ 300.00
Belton	75.00
Berean	10.00
Bethel	285.00
Columbia	15.00
Cooperative Receipts	13,049.18
Clarence Burton	10.00

DeSoto	150.00
Eastern Gate	65.00
Farmington	588.68
Flat River, First	9.00
Grace	80.00
Grant Avenue	56.00
Sandra Sisco	9.00
Hannon	431.36
Houston	157.00
Jones Chapel	120.00
Harmony	35.00
Leadington	270.00
Liberty, Phillipsburg	140.00
Marshfield	15.00
Mill Creek	20.00
Monett	354.57
Mountain Grove, First	96.50
Myrtle	192.00
Addie Harper	5.00
New Harmony	87.42
Oak Hill	58.00
Olivet	140.00
Pleasant Home	15.00
Pleasant Ridge	30.00
Sedalia	50.00
South Fremont	15.00
Thayer	77.00
Trinity	170.00
United, West Plains	94.42
Rolla	25.00
St. Francois Dist.	764.90
Cape Girardeau	133.85
Carthage	175.00
Neosho	60.00
Hershel Griffin	20.00
Oak Hill-Union	33.00
Royal Oak	60.00
Calvary Fellowship	419.98
Berkeley	213.00
Joplin	195.00
Southside	19.00
Victory, K.C.	75.00
Verdella	17.00
Blue Springs	30.00
Black Oak	60.00
Fordland	10.00
Aulsbury Chapel	5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,790.86</b>

## NOVEMBER IS National Home Missions Month



## November 23: Home Missions Sunday

We challenge your church to give a special offering, and you as individuals to give a sacrificial offering on National Home Missions Sunday. These gifts will help build Free Will Baptist churches in the North American continent and U.S.A. owned islands. Send gifts to National Home Missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tn. 37202.



# Minute Meditation

by Gene Crewse



"But they refused to hearken and pulled away the shoulder and stopped their ears that they should not hear." "Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the Lord of Hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets; therefore, came a great wrath from the Lord of Hosts." Zechariah 7:11-12.

In the verses preceding these two verses, God spoke through Zechariah to challenge the people to be compassionate without respect to persons. The people refused to be attentive to God's word and something very tragic happened. "They pulled away the shoulder."

Today, as in the times of the prophets, if we fail to hear God we have a tendency to pull back our shoulder of commitment to the church, allowing the work of the Lord to suffer. We also pull away the shoulder of compassion thereby allowing the worker of the Lord to suffer.

The sad part is, in the fact, that when we pull away our shoulder something happens to our heart. We find that it has become unmoving, and unyielding, like a stone.

God wants us to have a heart like the one spoken of in Luke 8:15, 'an honest and good heart'. This can be accomplished through His Spirit as Romans 5:5 promises, "The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost." But, if we will not allow the Lord to put a new heart in us, we must expect His wrath as indicated in the verses for meditation.

It all starts by not listening to God. It's then that we pull away our shoulder from our Christian responsibilities, and then our hearts become hardened. "Today if ye hear His voice, harden not your heart." How is your heart? Is it right with God?

## Youth Look

By Ann Cochran

### To My Friend,

It has been so long since I heard from you that I decided to write you and see if you still remembered me. I know you are busy, and you get so caught up in every day life that it is hard to remember an old friend.

I wrote you a letter but I am not sure you open it enough. I know it is long but I had a lot I needed to tell you. Please open my letter and read it all. Do not read just the "good parts!" It is all important or I never would have sent it.

I can never wait for you to call! You have quit calling as much as you did when we first became friends. You would call and we would talk for a long time. Now, you act as if it is a duty. You only call when you want a favor. Then, if I grant you your favor, you never say "thank you." You have stopped telling me the little things that are important to you. You would rather tell your secrets to your other friends.

I am so happy when I hear you sing about me—especially the one written about what a friend I am. I want to be that good friend but I cannot if you do not stay in touch with me.

Well, I know you are busy and do not have time for a real long letter. I wanted you to know I love you and I am thinking of you as always. This will never change—no matter how you feel about me.

Your best friend,  
Jesus

P.S. After reading this letter, please call me and just let me know that you still love me.

MO. STATE ASSOC. OF  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
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Lebanon, Missouri 65536

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