

# **THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM**

Volume 61, No. 5, May 1991

*Mother,  
I do remember . . .*



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*“ . . . forsake not the law of thy mother ”*  
Proverbs 6:20





Clarence Burton

## The Executive Secretary Writes

The date for the Missouri State Convention is almost here! The Convention begins Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. on June 3 and will continue into Thursday, June 6.

I was with Pastor Glenn Rehkop and the Grace Church in March for a Sunday Morning Service. They are ready and anxious to host the State Convention and Woman's Auxiliary.

Four pastors will challenge and bless the hearts of the folks at the convention. The four messages will be delivered by four of our pastors: Rev. Lloyd Durbin on Monday evening, Rev. Max Courtney on Tuesday evening,

Rev. Gary Mitchner on Wednesday morning, and Rev. Roger Hogan on Wednesday evening. The devotional messages will be delivered by two of our pastors: Rev. Wayne Phillips on Wednesday afternoon, and Rev. Bob Hudson on Thursday morning. There will be fine congregational and special singing, with special music that will thrill our hearts. I get excited when I think about these services and the sweet fellowship that we will enjoy at the State Convention.

Tuesday is a special day, for the Woman's Auxiliary always has an enjoyable and interesting program. Plus, on Tuesday afternoon, for those who are not in the Woman's Auxiliary service the Christian Educational Board is sponsoring a very informative seminar: Creation-Evolution, The Controversy Over Origins. Bob Farwell is the guest speaker. Brother Farwell, a member of the Beacon Free Will Baptist Church, has been through 'the fire' by the evolutionists. You will appreciate and enjoy this seminar.

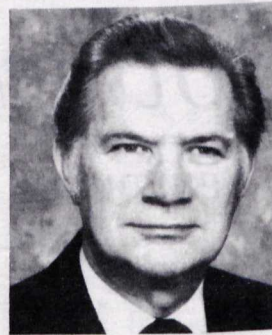
The Executive Committee meets at 10:30 a.m. and the General Board meets at 1:00 p.m. Both of these meetings will be held at the Grace Church.

May I encourage you to pray for the State Convention, attend, and invite others.



Cody Freeman

## A Word From The Moderator



Glenn Rehkop

## Welcome From The Host Pastor

### To All Missouri Free Will Baptists:

It's that time of year again! Time to make plans to attend the meeting of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists, June 3 - 6. This year the State Meeting will be held in the Grace Church, Arnold, Missouri.

Each year I look forward to seeing so many Free Will Baptist brothers and sisters gathered for fellowship and to do business for the Lord. It would be wonderful if every Free Will Baptist could attend our State Meeting. We do encourage each church to at least try and send its pastor and/or laymen to participate in the meeting. We all know how important it is to have the membership of the local church involved in supporting the business of the church. This is equally important on the state level of our work.

We hope to see you in Arnold! If you cannot attend the State Meeting this year, please be faithful to pray for it.

Pastor Glenn Rehkop and the Congregation of Grace Free Will Baptist Church extend a warm, cordial welcome to the Free Will Baptist people over the state of Missouri as you come to attend the State Association of Free Will Baptists June 3 - 6.

All the main highways lead into the city of Arnold almost without having to make a stop. You will miss the congestion of a busy city and enjoy the worshipful atmosphere of a church auditorium.

The friendly people of Grace Church are working hard in preparation for your coming. We are looking forward to your coming to our church for this very impressive associational meeting.

Make plans to be with us. We are excited about you coming our way. We hope to see you and greet you on June 3, 1991.

## News Release To Missouri Free Will Baptists

Free Will Baptists reached their faith goal for foreign missions in 1990. Missouri gifts, which totaled \$263,572, exceeded the suggested quota of \$257,000.

R. Eugene Waddell, general director of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions, expressed his appreciation to the people of Missouri. "Your state was one of 15 states and regional associations to meet their suggested goal last year. Your gifts, along with gifts from other Free Will Baptists, enabled our department to set a new record of \$3,609,827 for overseas outreach.

All items for publication must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 10th of the month preceding the issue month. Business Office: 202 West Commercial, Lebanon, Missouri 65536. Clarence Burton, Editor. Address all correspondence relating to the GEM, including subscription and mailing information, to the above address. The sermons and articles published in the GEM represent the personal views of the authors and not necessarily the views and policies of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists or of the editor. Subscription rates: Single subscription, \$4.50 per year, cash in advance. Church Plan \$4.00 per year consisting of five subscriptions or more. The Church Plan will continue until it is canceled by the church. This magazine is published monthly.





## With Our Churches

**FRIENDSHIP FWB CHURCH, Branson, MO** — Inherent to the characteristics of a prime tourist area, Friendship Church often experiences the ebb and flow of a seasonal, transient population, making it difficult to achieve a stable, steady growth, writes Evelyn Knowlton, church reporter. However, during the first quarter of 1991, we have seen the hand of the Lord working in a spectacular way, with 2 saved, 6 rededications and 10 new members added to the church roster. A baptismal service is planned for April 21 and at least 6 are expected to follow the Lord in baptism at that time.

We are especially blessed to see our youth exhibiting genuine fervor and enthusiasm for the things of the Lord. The newly formed Youth Auxiliary, spearheaded by Jamie Coffelt and Charlie Houston, is experiencing good attendance and has great plans for the future. A car wash and bake sale April 6 is expected to raise funds to help launch the Auxiliary's activities agenda.

A warm and sunny, full-blown Ozark spring day greeted early worshippers on Easter Sunday. It was a day filled with rejoicing — from a well-attended sunrise service, fellowship breakfast and Easter egg hunt through an unusual Easter evening tribute, more refreshments and fellowship — a fitting climax to an outstanding first quarter and a herald of great things yet to come.

Friendship FWB Church is alive and well, praising the Lord for answered prayer, and looking ahead with great expectation.

### Sunday School Attendance Averages October 1990-March 1991

CHURCHES	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
Belton	57	63	66	67	73	88
Buffalo, First	42	50	29	37		
Calvary Fellowship	257	222	221	216		
Cape Girardeau	64		76	67		
Central	99	91	100	99	98	109
Copper Mines	62	64				
Cuba	73	77	90			
DeSoto	199	190	185	176	201	212
Farmington	356	419	290		393	438
Flat River, First			128	114	127	
Hannon	87	81	83	84	88	117
Harmony	82	73	72	71	76	88
Hartville	103		115	94	95	103
Hopewell	38	39	39	24	33	
Houston	70	76	72	73	80	103
Lebanon, First	96	99	87	87	88	114
Myrtle	30	34	39	34	36	35
O'Fallon	44	49	37	45		
Parkview	57	68	53	53	60	72
Richwoods	33	33	32	29	31	
Rock Chapel	81	72	71	71	75	70
Springfield, First	126	123		114	119	124
Thayer	121	133		126		139
United, West Plains			158	175	183	196
Willow Springs	67	66	59	56	66	
Verdella						65

The above is only a partial listing — there are 170 Free Will Baptist churches in Missouri. Each church is encouraged to send in the Sunday School averages each month to be listed above.

**SPRINGFIELD FIRST FWB CHURCH, Springfield, MO** — We would like to tell you about our Senior Adult Group here at Springfield First Church.

We organized two years ago, soon after we came back from Stonecroft Retreat with Brother Hersey speaking to us about "Senior Adults And The Church."

Our attendance ranges from 15 to 30 in our Senior Adult meetings.

Sometimes we meet in the homes of our members, and we love to do this. Other times we meet at the church. We always have a short business meeting telling each other what we have accomplished or what we would like to accomplish. We also have a treasury, and when we get enough money collected, we will do something special with it. We just meet for a good time of fellowship. One summer we went to Muskogee, Oklahoma, to see the beautiful azaleas. We took our bus, which made the trip quite a thrill. The fact is, we are always thrilled when we take our bus and arrive without having to walk part way!

One time we went to Carthage to look at all the "Precious Moments." Those were so precious!

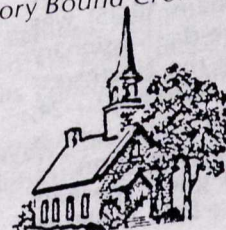
We usually have finger foods so we won't do much "Cleaning Up." We try to get speakers to come into the church once in a while that would be helpful to the community. Our president, Brother Floyd Draper, heads up the planning of our activities, and our vice president helps with it. Our pastor, Rev. Max Courtney, duplicates the audio tapes of our morning services. The morning service is always recorded with one of our young people at the controls. Brother Draper and Sister Bagwell take these tapes to our home-bound folks and our sick folks. If you have never had a part in a tape ministry, you are missing a great blessing. This is a rewarding ministry and very much appreciated by those unable to come to church.

We assist in any way we can in our church. Ruth Coday chairs our C.C.A. Program (Community Club Awards). This is a fine fund raiser. Lots of work is involved, but it pays off well. We have made about \$485.00 in the past year and expect to make that much or more this year. This money was donated to our building program.

We have an organized "Prayer Line" that, I am sure, the Lord has used to bless many of our people. It not only blesses those we pray for, but also those who participate.

Several of our older people are in need of much prayer as I write this. The Allsman's, the Therman Floyd's, and some others, certainly could use an extra dose of prayer.

As you read this, please pray for these folks. We want to always thank God for His love to us, our love for one another, and our love for the church. **What would a church do without Senior Adults?** Ruth Courtney, Secretary, The Glory Bound Crew.







GABI class session

## Grant Avenue Bible Institute Opens

The Grant Avenue FWB Church, 1060 S. Grant, Springfield, Missouri, under the direction of the pastor, Rev. Jeffery Gaskins, has initiated a Bible Institute. The name is Grant Avenue Bible Institute (GABI).

The purpose of GABI is to teach its students the Word of God so that they may be better equipped to serve the Lord Jesus Christ in evangelism and in the edification of His Church.

The institute offers a three-year program of study with three classes a year (March-May, September-November and December-February). A student must complete eight courses within three years, pass the exam, and read the Bible through once in order to receive a Certificate of Bible Studies.

The fee for the courses is \$12.00 per person and \$8.00 per person for a second family member. Fees cover all textbooks and materials.

The class meets on Thursday evening at the church with the session beginning at 7:30 p.m. (7:30-8:15, 8:15-8:20 Break, 8:20-9:00).

The course descriptions are: First Steps In The Christian Faith, How To Understand The Bible, Survey Of The O.T. I (Genesis - Esther), Survey Of The O.T. II (Job - Malachi), Survey Of The New Testament, The Life Of Christ, The Bible Says (Bible Doctrine), The Cults Exposed and Bible Prophecy.

Anyone interested in attending GABI should contact Rev. Gaskins at the church office phone 1-417-865-2450.

## Missionary Conference at Northwest Association

"And How Shall They Preach Except They Be Sent" (Romans 10:15) was the theme for the three-day Missionary Conference held by the Northwest District Association, March 22 - 24, writes reporter, Thelma Tyer, who is clerk-treasurer of the association.

Missionaries and guest speakers for the occasion were Don and Ruth

McDonald, missionaries serving in Japan. Don McDonald spoke and showed slides of their work on Friday evening at the Mt. Zion Church. On Saturday morning, tears filled many eyes as Ruth gave her personal testimony at the Freeman Chapel Church. At the Sunday Morning Worship Service Brother McDonald spoke on the subject, "Make Haste In Giving Out The Gospel Message." Dinner was enjoyed in the Fellowship Hall following the morning service.

Several weeks before the conference, the moderator, Rev. Vernon Maggart, presented this challenge to the two churches: "If 30 people would give \$100, that would be enough money to pay for the return trip to Japan for the McDonald's." Praise the Lord! The conference received \$3,223.26. Sister Tyer writes, "Nothing is impossible with God!"

## Sister Lucy Postlewaite Home With The Lord

Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 29, 1991, 10:00 a.m., for Mrs. Lucy Jane Postlewaite. The service was held at the Craig-Hurt-Bradley Chapel in Mtn. Grove, MO. Rev. R.E. Helsley and Rev. Ronald Turner officiated. A group of granddaughters sang "Where We Will Never Grow Old" and "In The Sweet By and By." A grandson sang "Because He Lives." Pallbearers were grandsons. Burial was in the Union Chapel Cemetery at Graff, MO.

Sister Postlewaite was born October 16, 1896, to William and Anna (Hutsell) Crewse of Graff, MO. She accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour at the age of 13, at the Union Free Will Baptist Church, Graff, MO. At the time of her death she was a member of the Number One Free Will Baptist Church, Huggins, MO.

On June 13, 1913, at Kieffer, OK, she was united in marriage to John Postlewaite. To this union 11 sons and 4 daughters were born. The family moved to Texas County, MO, in 1925. Her husband, Rev. John Postlewaite, was an ordained minister, and Sister Postlewaite assisted him faithfully in his pastoral and evangelistic duties. As a devoted wife and mother, she was thankful for her large family and was willing to sacrifice her comfort and well-being for the benefit of the family. She loved her church and often rejoiced in the goodness and

grace of the Lord. She will be remembered for her faith which she expressed in many ways. One of her greatest priorities in life was to constantly maintain the "Family Altar." At that time the family gathered for prayer, the reading of God's Word, and the singing of hymns of the faith.

Sister Postlewaite was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. John J. Postlewaite; sons, Curtis, Wayne, Wade, Harold, James and Clyde; and one daughter, Sylvia Marie. She is survived by 5 sons, Carl, Johnny, Dean and Glen, all of Mtn. Grove, and Paul of Hudsonville, MI; 3 daughters, Bernice Peterson and Marjorie McCarty, both of Mtn. Grove, and Freda Edwards of Hartville, MO; 52 grandchildren, 115 great-grandchildren, and 25 great, great-grandchildren; 3 sisters, Mae Hutsell, Huggins, MO, Ella Coble and Estel Shelly, both of Milton Freewater, OK; and a host of other relatives and friends who loved and appreciated her warm and friendly smile and her dedicated, selfless devotion to everyone.

## Participants for 1991 Truth and Peace Leadership Selected

The participants for the 1991 Truth and Peace Youth Leadership Conference have been selected, states Jim Lauthern, director of the N.Y.C.

The 56 high school young people represent 16 states across the Free Will Baptist denomination. Among the 28 young men and 28 young ladies are 13 preacher's children and one missionary's child from Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa.

The three-week conference will be held on the campus of Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, TN. For the final week of the conference the participants will be chartered to Charleston, WV, where they will assume leadership roles in the N.Y.C.

The five selected from Missouri are: Alon Cage, Columbia; Philip Ledgerwood, Parkville; Ryan Long, Valles Mines; Mitchell Walker, Mtn. Grove; and Diane Walls, Florissant.

Three Missouri youth have been selected for the YET Team. They are: Diane Walls, Florissant; Jessica Fry, Mtn. Grove; and Philip Ledgerwood, Parkville.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Congratulations!





## Looking Out My Parsonage Window

by Ve Ann Tilson

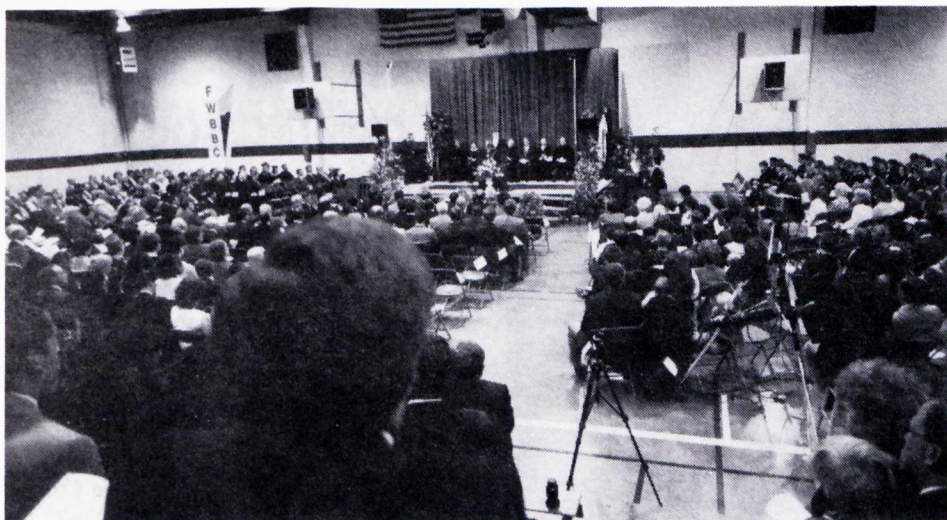
### "NEW AGE AND THE MEDIA"

To what extent are the New Agers responsible for the incredible indoctrination and trash now so prevalent on our television screens? The answer is "very responsible." When 98% of the homes in America have television sets, and those TV's stay on seven hours a day (American Family Association, 1991), it is clearly evident what a powerful transmitter of value and standards that television really is. With characters like Bart Simpson and Roseanne Barr regularly turning up on lists of most admired Americans, it's clear whose values and standards are being propagated.

New Age disciples are keenly aware of this powerful influence and use it very effectively to exert influence over the youth of America. Liberal writers, producers and directors, use every opportunity, from news programs to cartoons, to saturate America with New Age philosophy. Take for instance Norman Lear, well-known Hollywood producer. CBS has agreed to run a new "religious" series by Mr. Lear, entitled, "Sunday Dinner." Sounds innocent enough, doesn't it? According to American Family Association, Mr. Lear plans to use this program to preach on social issues that he is concerned about . . . New Age/Secular Humanist religion. In a recent interview, Mr. Lear explained the series. The key character will be a young woman who talks to God. Sometimes God will be "HE," sometimes "SHE," and sometimes "SOME-ONE." This is New Age ideology. It is not an isolated example.

Since starting this study, I've become more conscious of the hidden agenda now found in many programs. The New Agers, in charge of network and cable television programming, work diligently to subtly promote New Age theology wherever possible, especially in CHILDREN'S programming.

(to be continued next month)



Crowd fills gym for inauguration of Tom Malone

## Bible College Inaugurates Fourth President

NASHVILLE, TN — Free Will Baptist Bible College inaugurated Dr. Tom Malone as its fourth president on March 12 in a service held in the college's activities building.

Representatives from other national departments and from several state associations were present. A large delegation was also present from Dr. Malone's former pastorate in Florence, Alabama.

Special greetings and pledges of support were given by Rev. Fred Hall for the Alumni Association, Mr. Doug Kite for the student body, Rev. Bert Tippet for the faculty/staff, and Dr. Melvin Worthington for the National Association of Free Will Baptists. The formal investiture was done by Rev. Bob Ketchum, Vice Chairman of the college Board of Trustees.

Dr. Malone's inaugural message, taken from the Book of Joshua, was a commitment for the college to continue carrying the torch of dedication and Christian education among Free Will Baptists. He said that we must not fail to pass on the torch that God has committed to our keeping. The College Choir responded by singing "We Will Carry The Torch." Special music was also rendered by Rev. and Mrs. Blaine Hughes.

Dr. Malone is the first alumnus of Free Will Baptist Bible College to occupy the President's office. His predecessors are Rev. L. R. Ennis, Dr. L. C. Johnson and Dr. Charles A. Thigpen.

## Bible College Receives \$435,000 To Repay \$345,000 Debt

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE — Free Will Baptist Bible College has so far received \$435,000 as a result of its appeal for gifts to pay off a \$345,000 line of credit loan to First American National Bank. The bank placed a March 20, 1991, deadline on the debt, leaving the college only a few weeks to collect it.

Gifts ranging from \$1 to \$12,300 began arriving at the college after word of its need reached the denomination. More than \$60,000 was receipted on one day, according to Peggy McElhinney, Assistant Treasurer. The \$345,000-mark was reached and surpassed on March 20, the deadline.

President Tom Malone describes the response as "miraculous." Former President L. C. Johnson says, "There is no human explanation for what has happened."

A day of praise was declared on campus April 2. First American Bank President, Terry Turner, and members of his staff, spoke in chapel on April 3. They congratulated the college and its constituents, and shared their own Christian testimonies.

Before the crisis drive, the total FWBBC indebtedness was \$600,000. The college is now within sight of being debt free, which would save the school nearly \$127,000 per year.





"Mom" Mabel Willey



Diane Mitchell Thomas

## COMING SOON!

### The 1991 Missouri State Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Retreat

August 23-24, 1991  
Stonecroft Conference Center

#### THEME:

*"Being a Victorious Woman Until He Comes"*

#### SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS:

DIANE MITCHELL THOMAS

Well-Known Woman's Auxiliary Speaker and Writer from Grifton, North Carolina

"MOM" MABEL WILLEY

Veteran Free Will Baptist Missionary

#### WOMAN'S AUXILIARY RETREAT PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

*For those staying at the Conference Center*

List the ladies that will be staying in the same room (each room has 2 double or queen size beds):

1/Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church \_\_\_\_\_

2/Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church \_\_\_\_\_

3/Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church \_\_\_\_\_

4/Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church \_\_\_\_\_

In order to accommodate the maximum number of ladies attending, there must be 4 ladies to each room. Rooms are assigned as reservations are received. Reservations will not be accepted before June 17, 1991.

Cost is \$30.00 per person (which includes food, lodging and registration fee). **Total Amount Enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY** (no cash please). **THERE ARE NO REFUNDS!**  
**PLEASE SEND A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE WITH THIS FORM TO:** Shirley Jackson, 13 Highland Drive, St. Charles, MO 63303. Telephone: 314:946-1754.

*(Please see form on page 7 for those not staying at Conference Center)*

**Missouri State Free Will Baptist**  
**WOMAN'S AUXILIARY RETREAT**  
**August 23-24, 1991**  
**Stonecroft Conference Center (near Branson, MO)**

**PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**  
*For those not staying at the Conference Center*

List the ladies attending the retreat, but providing their own accommodations. Check which meals they will be eating at Stonecroft. The cost for registration and all meals will be \$21.75.

1/Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Church \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Registration Fee     \$8.00     \_\_\_\_ Friday Dinner     \$6.35  
\_\_\_\_ Saturday Breakfast     \$3.15     \_\_\_\_ Saturday Lunch     \$4.25

2/Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Church \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Registration Fee     \$8.00     \_\_\_\_ Friday Dinner     \$6.35  
\_\_\_\_ Saturday Breakfast     \$3.15     \_\_\_\_ Saturday Lunch     \$4.25

3/Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Church \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Registration Fee     \$8.00     \_\_\_\_ Friday Dinner     \$6.35  
\_\_\_\_ Saturday Breakfast     \$3.15     \_\_\_\_ Saturday Lunch     \$4.25

4/Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Church \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Registration Fee     \$8.00     \_\_\_\_ Friday Dinner     \$6.35  
\_\_\_\_ Saturday Breakfast     \$3.15     \_\_\_\_ Saturday Lunch     \$4.25

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY (no cash please). **THERE ARE NO REFUNDS!**  
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## Youth Camp Board



Judy Goff and Peggy Brewington preparing for crafts

## Youth Camp Time Is Almost Here!

The Camp Superintendent and his wife, Ken and Judy Goff, are making plans for a great camp. The Youth Camp Board is finalizing plans for workers and camp accommodations. If you haven't made plans to attend, you need to do it quickly!

Please note the Calendar of Events elsewhere in this issue of the *Gem* for dates and groups.

## The Beauty of Biology

by Pam Hudson

### THEISTIC EVOLUTION

Lately, in my readings, I have encountered more and more the term "Theistic Evolution." What is it? Like many phrases that sound familiar, we read them without really thinking about their meaning, unless we see them often. After doing a little research, I have come to the conclusion that the term "Theistic Evolution" is contradictory by its very definition. According to Webster's Ninth Edition:

**theistic:** a belief in the existence of one God viewed as the creative source of man and the world who transcends, yet is immanent in the world.

**evolution:** the historical development of a biological group or species (b) a theory that the various types of animals and plants have their origin in other preexisting types and that the distinguishable differences are due to modifications in successive generations.

How is it possible to view God as the creator of man and still hold to the theory that man evolved from some lower animal? Some liberal theologians (and I use that term loosely) have tried to do just that! In a "Christian" publication, *Evolution and Christian Thought Today*, Walter Hearn and Richard Hendry concluded a chapter on "The Origin of Life" with this: "The authors of this chapter consider the expressions of Scripture regarding the creation of life to be sufficiently figurative to imply little or no limitation on possible mechanisms." In the symposium, "Origins and Christian Thought Today" at Wheaton College, Dr. Hearn further stated:

...surely we know that processes have been involved in bringing us into existence. Why shudder, then, at the idea that processes were involved in bringing Adam into existence. Granted that we do not yet know details of the processes, why may we not assume that God did use processes?

From a former president of Fuller Theological Seminary we read these words:

Since orthodoxy has given up the literal-day theory out of respect for geology, it would certainly forfeit no principle if it gave up the immediate-creation theory out of respect for paleontology. The two seem to be quite parallel...If God was pleased to breathe His image into a creature that had previously come from the dust, so be it.

Man is the crown of God's creation. He was made in the image and likeness of the Creator and was given complete dominion over the earth and its inhabitants (Genesis 1:26). In light of this, it seems to me to be the height of blasphemy to concur that man is little more than the ancestor of an "Ape-man."

The **physical** differences among men and apes are enormous, but the **spiritual** and **mental** differences are almost without limits. Of all living things on this planet, only man is free from instinct to make real choices and to have significant goals and purposes throughout life; has complex emotions; can make real tools; can appreciate art and music; can be educated, not merely trained; can accumulate knowledge from preceding generations; can discern morally right and wrong; entertains a conscience; can recognize the supremeness and desires of his Creator through worship, sacrifice, and service. Only man will exist forever in heaven or hell.

There is absolutely no way to "fit" together the complete evolutionary decent of man from a lower life form and the Biblical account. Throughout the Scriptures, we find evidence that clearly supports the fact that God directly created Adam and Eve completely apart from the existing animals. Our Lord Jesus says in Matthew 19:4, in reference to marriage, "Have you not read, that He who created them from the beginning made the male and female...?" Thus, if Adam and Eve were descendants of other animals, they would have already been "male and female." In I Corinthians 11:8, the Apostle Paul states "...man does not originate from woman, but woman from man. For as the woman originates from the man, so also the man has his birth through the woman..." Paul is obviously saying that while all men (and women) today have mothers, all women (and men) have their ultimate origins in man (Adam). And later in I Corinthians 15:39 Paul again clearly defines the lines of a supernatural origin of the human race, "All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one flesh of men and another of beasts..."

Some of the liberal theologians would have you to believe that when God "breathed the breath of life" into Adam that He actually was putting a soul into an already existing animal. They contend that the *dust* from which God formed Adam, was actually *living dust*, that's right, man's ancestors! Basic hermeneutics teaches every serious Bible student the *law of context*. The Genesis account is not to be taken symbolically, for all through the book "dust" is referring to DIRT! For example, in Genesis 3:18-19 when Adam is being cursed of God,

Cursed is the ground because of you...both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you...by the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Clearly, in this passage, *dust*, is dirt, not an animal from which Adam has descended. We may not know exactly how God fashioned our ultimate parents, but we know that he created them **suddenly** and **miraculously** and **THAT** is the plain truth according to the Scriptures.



# 55th Annual Session NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

## Charleston, West Virginia July 21-25, 1991



CHARLESTON CIVIC CENTER

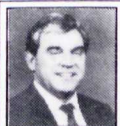
### Theme: "Found Faithful"



James E. Kaper  
Pastor  
First Church FWB Ch.  
Catharine, S.C.



Keith Woody  
Pastor  
Capitol Hill FWB Ch.  
Oklahoma City, Okla.



Billy Hanna  
Pastor  
First FWB Church  
Albany, Ga.



David Reece  
Pastor  
Heritage FWB Church  
Fredericksburg, Va.



Howard Munsey  
Pastor  
Peace FWB Church  
Morristown, Tenn.

#### INSTRUCTIONS for Pre-Registration Form

By completing the Pre-Registration Form you will save **valuable** time at the convention. If you pre-register, you need to go to a special registration area. There you receive a packet containing your name tag (pre-printed), a list of tickets you have purchased, a *Digest of Reports* and a program.

#### Filling Out the Form

1. Fill out the top portion of the form. Please complete **all** of the information. You may register for one, two or all three conventions. You need to fill out only **one** form even if you register for more than one convention (National Association, WNAC, NYC).

2. Fill out the first block if you are registering for the **National Association**. Fill in your *District Association*. Check only **one** of the choices. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase. (Enclose check payable to **FWB Convention**.)

3. Fill out the second block if you are registering for the **Woman's National Auxiliary Convention**. Check only **one** of the choices. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase. (Enclose check payable to **FWB Convention**.)

4. Fill out the last block if you are registering for the **National Youth Conference**. Complete the other information in the block. The fees are as follows:

- \$9.00 for an individual.
- \$8.50 each if two from same family are registering.
- \$8.00 each if three from same family are registering.
- \$7.50 each if four or more from same family are registering.
- \$10.00 if you do not register before June 25.
- Adults over 24 do not have to register to attend the NYC.

5. Check only **one** of the payment plans. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase and close check for registration and tickets payable to **FWB Convention**. **NOTE:** Before July 22, Youth Banquet tickets will be sold only to those in grades seven to age 24 and youthworkers. Others may purchase tickets at the convention after this date.

#### Additional Information

- 6. Mail completed forms by **June 25, 1991** to **Convention Registration-P.O. Box 1088-Nashville, TN-37202**.
- 7. Enclose one check to cover all fees and tickets.
- 8. Make additional copies of the Pre-Registration Form if they are needed. Only one person per form please.
- 9. You may purchase banquet tickets from any block even if you do not register in that block. No refunds issued after June 25, 1991.

**Children's Banquet/\$7.00**  
Monday, July 22/5:00 PM  
Holiday Inn-Charleston House/Grand Ballroom

**Music Ministries Breakfast/\$7.50**  
Tuesday, July 23/7:00 AM  
Marriott Hotel/Ballroom Salon D

**WNAC Fellowship Dinner/\$14.00**  
Tuesday, July 23/5:00 PM  
Charleston Civic Center/North Hall

**Youth Workers Fellowship Breakfast/\$7.50**  
Wednesday, July 24/7:00 AM  
Holiday Inn-Charleston House/Suite II

**Fellowship of Encouragement Dinner/\$15.00**  
Monday, July 22/5:00 PM  
Holiday Inn-Charleston House/Lobby Ballroom

**Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon/\$10.00**  
Tuesday, July 23/12:15 PM  
Charleston Civic Center/North Hall

**Youth Banquet/\$12.50**  
Tuesday, July 23/9:00 PM  
West Virginia Belle River Boat

**FWBBC Luncheon/\$11.00**  
Wednesday, July 24/12:00 Noon  
Charleston Civic Center/North Hall

**Master's Men Dinner/\$13.50**  
Wednesday, July 24/5:00 PM  
Charleston Civic Center/North Hall

#### Pre-Registration Form

for  
National Association of Free Will Baptists  
Woman's National Auxiliary Convention  
National Youth Conference  
Charleston, WV / July 21 - 25, 1991

Please Print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Male ☐ Female

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Register me for the following: ☐ National Association  
(You may register for more than one) ☐ WNAC  
☐ NYC

Mail completed form(s)  
by June 25, 1991 to  
**Convention Registration**  
P.O. Box 1088  
Nashville, TN 37202

If registering for the **National Association**, please complete the following information:

DISTRICT ASSOCIATION:

(Check only one of the following:)

MINISTER: ☐ Ordained (MO) ☐ Licensed (ML) (If you are a member in good standing with the above named church and association which belong to the National Association.)

MISSIONARY: ☐ Foreign (MF) (Country) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Home (MH) \_\_\_\_\_

DELEGATE: ☐ Ordained Deacon (OD) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ State (ST) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Local Church (\$10.00) (LC) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ National Board Member (NB) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ National Officer (NO) \_\_\_\_\_

VISITOR: ☐ (VS) \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet Tickets: (please indicate quantity)

Music Ministries Breakfast \$7.50

Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon \$10.00

FWBBC Alumni Luncheon \$11.00

Master's Men Dinner \$13.50

Fellowship of Encouragement Dinner \$15.00

If registering for **WNAC**, please complete the following information:

(Check only one of the following:)

DELEGATE: ☐ Local (\$3.00) (WL) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ District (WD) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ State (WS) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ WNAC Officer (WO) \_\_\_\_\_

VISITOR: ☐ (AV) \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet Tickets: (please indicate quantity)

WNAC Fellowship Dinner \$14.00

If registering for the **National Youth Conference**, please complete the following information:

Grade just completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's (or Guardian's) name: \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Leader's name: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ONE:

☐ \$9.00 (Individual)

☐ \$8.50 Family Plan A

☐ \$8.00 Family Plan B

☐ \$7.50 Family Plan C

☐ \$10.00 (after June 25)

Banquet Tickets: (please indicate quantity)

Children's Banquet (grades 1-6) \$7.00

Youth Banquet (grade 7 - age 24) \$12.50

Youth Workers Breakfast \$7.50

Are you participating in NYC competition this year? ☐ yes ☐ no



## Points for Pastors

by James McAllister

A TV evangelist stands before the camera, with tears streaming down his face, confessing, "I have sinned"; a nationally known Christian book author falls into adultery; a Free Will Baptist executive falls; pastors, evangelists, teachers, all men of God, all men who have preached the gospel with power and authority, fall into public and private sin. It happens more often than we want to admit.

It happened in the Old Testament; it happened in the New Testament; it has been happening in other denominations for decades; and now it is happening to us. Now it is our preachers, evangelists, pastors, and college professors who are going the way of the flesh. You know, of course, that laymen are also falling into sin. It isn't just preachers who fall and shame our Lord. Deacons, Sunday School teachers, and Christian housewives also fall.

It has been said that we Free Will Baptists preach Armenian Doctrine but live Calvinist doctrine. Surely we must have swallowed the Calvinist doctrine that teaches that sin has nothing to do with our relationship to Christ. Well, the Bible certainly does not teach any such thing, and we'd better remember, "Your sin will find you out." Whether you are a minister or a layman, a missionary or a business man, an evangelist or a housewife, your sins will ruin your life and your eternity. Being a preacher won't excuse you.





The Howard Gwartney Family

## The Gwartney's Latest Recording (Proceeds go to the Mesa Land Fund)

**Amount Needed: \$53,000.00**

The Howard R. Gwartney Family, National Home Missionaries to Mesa, Arizona, have recently recorded their 4th Gospel music cassette tape. The proceeds from this effort are to be designated for the Mesa Land Fund. Property in the Valley of the Sun is high (sometimes \$6.00 per square FOOT and higher). The East Valley FWB Church is paying \$1,100.00 rent for a 2,400 square feet space in a shopping center. They hope to be able to build a 6,000 square feet church building for about \$150,000.00 (from the CELF), but the property is going to cost \$120,000.00. The church has about \$67,000.00 in cash and commitments for their land. Please help the Gwartneys buy land for this Free Will Baptist work. For your gift of \$30.00 or more, we will send you their latest recording with the following songs:

Into My Heart  
I Asked for Mercy  
Closer Home  
Jesus Picks Me Up  
Homesick

Solid Ground  
It's Still the Blood  
Old Time Preacher Man  
Heaven Is Waiting  
The Last Blood

You can receive the cassette by sending your gift of \$30.00 or more for the Mesa Land Fund to the National Home Missions Department, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202. You may use the coupon below and mail it to National Home Missions today! **(Pastors, call or write Home Missions or the Gwartneys [602-981-9820] to find out how you can obtain tapes for each family in your church.)**

*"Dear Friends, Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support. Your help with this project will put us one step closer to being a self-supporting Free Will Baptist Church. Continue to remember us when you pray. In Christ's Love, The Gwartneys."*

**YES, I want to help the Gwartneys get the needed land for their church.**

Enclosed is my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ (quantity) tape(s).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your gift of \$30  
or more will  
help us get our  
land.

Please make  
checks payable to:  
National Home  
Missions Dept.  
P.O. Box 1088  
Nashville, TN  
37202

## Essentials of Evangelism

by Stanley Jones

Quite often we are encouraged to pray for revival and the winning of the lost. While we should do just that, I would also like to solicit prayer for the preacher who serves as the evangelist. One reason I am asking for such prayer is because that is my ministry. However, I want to include every full-time evangelist, and pastor evangelist, because there are some areas of need shared by all.

Pray for his personal life; pray that he will stay close to the Lord. His personal relationship with God is of greater importance than his public image. Pray for his family. When he is away from home there is added pressure placed on his wife and children as they confront each day's decision.

Pray for his safety as he travels. This is very demanding on the evangelist. A different diet can be upsetting. This type of subtle stress can pose unconscious physical problems. Pray for his accountability. Being away from his home church can give a feeling of isolation. Sometimes this may encourage an unconscious carelessness in attitude and conduct. Every Christian needs the "check and balance" of answering to other Christians in a local church setting. The more one is away from the local church influence the more apt an unhealthy individualism may develop.

Pray for his preaching. There is a tremendous pressure on him as he seeks the Lord's leading for those messages. He does not have months or a year to develop a theme. Areas of need must be touched in a few services. It is hard to describe the feeling of preaching and missing the target.

Pray for his attitude. Pray he will be patient with churches that do not seem to understand his personal and financial needs. Pray he can consider the needs of the church to which he is ministering. Pray he can rejoice over victories experienced by the host church during a revival meeting.

Pray for him often. Not only when he is at your church in a meeting, but try to remember him and his labor every day. Sometime ago a lady approached me and let me know she prayed daily for me. I can never express how much her constant praying means to me.



# Financial Information

## MARCH 1991

### COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

18.50% Mo. State Home Missions Board	\$ 5,429.81
17.50% Exec. Off. & Gem	5,136.30
3.50% General Fund	1,027.26
8.50% Youth Camp Bd.	2,494.78
2.50% Youth Ministries Bd.	733.75
2.50% C.E. Board	733.75
2.50% Sr. Adult Ministries Board	733.75
5.00% Mo. State Retirement Program	1,467.52
30.50% Nat'l. Ministries, Hillsdale & Calif. Christian College	8,951.84
Foreign Missions Board	
National Home Missions Board	
Same Allocation:	
Free Will Baptist Bible College	
Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	
Executive Department	
Layman's Board	
Radio & TV Commission	
Theological Commission	
Historical Commission	
Board of Retirement & Insurance	
1% Calif. Christian College (\$89.51 included in \$8,951.84)	
9.00% State Office & Bookstore Bldg.	2,641.52
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,350.28</b>

This is March 1991. We are trusting God to meet our Cooperative Goal this year, just as He has done the past several years. May He continue to work through faithful pastors and churches to meet this need.

The allocation for National Ministries goes undesignated for this year with FWBCC & Hillsdale receiving an equal amount. California Christian College will continue to receive the 1%.

## MARCH 1991 RECEIPTS

### COOPERATIVE

Heritage	\$ 130.39
Friendship	318.00
Royal Oak	120.00
Rolla	81.04
Bailey Chapel	65.00
Cape Girardeau	552.21
Merl's Chapel	213.00
Oak Hill, Fredericktown	152.61
Trinity	839.86
Hazel Creek	363.60
Stockton	84.82
Lebanon, First	436.04
Hannon	386.64
Hartville	398.70
Potosi	73.75
Columbia	75.00
Oak Grove, Norwood	101.00
Victory, Alton	160.00
Berkeley	2,952.20
New Life, Licking	299.75
New Life, Licking	613.20
Calvary Chapel	119.95
United, W.P.	625.95
Clifton	28.78
Mill Creek	182.11
Freeman Chapel	196.70
Thayer	554.00
Black Oak	229.78
Grant Avenue	681.80
Unity	217.86
Lone Star	41.60
Cabool	353.81
Happy Home	98.57
Monett	533.16
Hopewell	145.00
Springfield, First	602.55
Houston	296.32
Rock Chapel	336.04
Marshfield	215.63
Seymour	57.00
DeSoto	745.00
Kirkville	68.23
Joplin	346.14
Cope	14.25

Cope	53.00
Oak Hill, Union	202.94
Mt. Zion, Gower	53.90
Pleasant Home	186.48
Beacon	750.00
Trinity	751.16
Pleasant Ridge	100.00
Lingo	41.71
Union Grove	138.00
Mine La Motte	62.71
Hurryville	262.06
Riverview, IA	607.45
Mt. Pisgah	232.00
Flat River, First	485.60
Viburnum	207.26
Carthage	80.00
Faith & Hope	60.82
Neosho	71.25
Willow Springs	198.17
Parkview	359.48
Harmony, K.C.	381.00
Liberty	246.00
Jones Chapel	192.10
Jones Chapel	165.81
Terrill Road	100.00
Koshkonong	95.12
Leadington	440.00
West Plains, First	447.00
Copper Mines	219.14
Faith, Lemay	25.00
Oak Hill, Union	202.94
Farmington	1,998.88
Macedonia	20.00
Grace	1,045.00
Bethel, El Dorado	47.84
Pleasant Hill	47.72
New Life, Ava	15.00
Tyrone	145.93
Fredericktown	414.90
South Fremont	366.00
Eastern Gate	280.00
Twin Oak	993.30
Wolf Creek	325.10
Boothel District Association	11.41
Salem	30.00
Grant Avenue	666.84
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,350.28</b>

### HILLSDALE COLLEGE

Hannon	\$ 50.00
Calvary Fellowship	35.75
Thayer	35.00
Grant Avenue	16.00
Oak Hill, Union	18.50
Beacon	50.00
Farmington	133.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$338.25</b>

### FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Calvary Fellowship	\$ 35.75
DeSoto	35.00
Freeman Chapel	20.00
Thayer	30.00
Grant Avenue	220.00
Parkview	60.00
Farmington	126.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$526.75</b>

### CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Farmington	\$35.00
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### YOUTH CAMP

Trinity	\$ 28.00
Hannon	15.00
Hartville	10.00
Calvary Fellowship	39.00
Thayer	30.00
Mountain Grove, First	20.00
Mt. Pisgah	10.00
Parkview	10.00
Buffalo, First	50.00
Fordland	20.00
Bethel, El Dorado	15.00
DeSoto	50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$297.00</b>

### JOHN McCURE ACCOUNT

Berkeley	\$20.00
Thayer	12.00
Monett	15.00
Farmington	10.00
Grace	30.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$87.00</b>

## FOREIGN MISSIONS

Southside	\$ 275.00
Blue Springs	60.00
Richwoods	66.04
Merl's Chapel	200.00
Trinity	294.98
Lebanon	65.00
Hannon	426.64
B. Thompson	25.00
Columbia	14.35
Oak Grove, Norwood	67.38
Berkeley	50.00
Niangua	57.00
N. Akeman	10.00
Calvary Chapel	40.00
United	85.45
Calvary Fellowship	991.10
Freeman Chapel	385.00
Thayer	181.00
Grant Avenue	363.46
C. Layman	10.00
Monett	994.00
J. Schebaum	140.00
Houston	127.80
Rock Chapel	143.00
Marshfield	10.00
DeSoto	560.00
Kirkville	30.00
Joplin	10.00
Mountain Grove	357.38
Oak Hill, Union	29.00
Pleasant Home	33.65
Beacon	373.00
Trinity	280.23
Pleasant Ridge	45.00
S. Hart	20.00
Mt. Pisgah	200.00
Flat River, First	97.12
Viburnum	100.00
Parkview Mission Group	60.00
Carthage	75.00
A. Jenkinson	25.00
New Testament	25.00
Neosho	415.00
Faith & Hope	27.25
Martinstown	100.00
Parkview	197.00
Faith, Oak Grove	60.00
Houston	111.91
Macedonia	10.00
Oak Grove, Cabool	65.00
Leadington	10.00
West Plains First	20.00
Belton	314.43
Farmington	285.00
Fordland	153.00
Grace	25.00
Unity	82.00
S. Fremont	110.00
Eastern Gate	58.00
Bethel, Festus	30.00
Grant Avenue	344.37
Berkeley	60.00
N.E. Association	3,223.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,103.80</b>

## NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Blue Springs	\$ 10.00
Richwoods	25.68
Trinity	5.00
Lebanon	5.00
Hannon	5.00
Columbia	14.35
Oak Grove, Norwood	33.69
Berkeley	10.00
United	30.00
Thayer	245.00
Grant Avenue	21.00
Monett	20.00
Rock Chapel	179.67
DeSoto	200.00
Kirkville	5.00
Joplin	55.00
Mountain Grove	50.00
Oak Hill, Union	12.50
Pleasant Home	10.00
Beacon	45.00
Trinity	20.00
Mt. Pisgah	75.00
Flat River First	63.56
Viburnum	48.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
Carthage	45.00
A. Jenkinson	10.00
New Testament	15.00
Parkview	58.00

Buffalo, First	100.00
Belton	30.00
Farmington	23.16
Fordland	15.00
Grace	125.00
S. Fremont	47.00
Eastern Gate	10.00
Wolf Creek	10.00
Grant Avenue	21.00
Berkeley	10.00
B. Keith	10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,727.61</b>

## STATE HOME MISSIONS

Southside	\$ 30.00
Richwoods	10.00
Trinity	65.00
West Plains, First	126.76
Lebanon	65.00
Hannon	193.32
Columbia	35.00
Berkeley	10.00
United	85.00
Calvary Fellowship	5.00
Thayer	80.00
Grant Avenue	175.61
J.W. Rader	25.00
S.E. District	25.00
Monett	3.00
Marshfield	31.56
DeSoto	50.00
Mountain Grove	64.00
Oak Hill, Union	18.00
Pleasant Home	69.82
Fredericktown	300.00
Beacon	2.00
Trinity	75.00
Pleasant Ridge	25.00
Mt. Pisgah	20.00
Flat River, First	48.56
Viburnum	13.00
Carthage	5.00
A. Jenkinson	5.00
Faith & Hope	27.25
Parkview	5.00
Macedonia	25.00
West Plains, First	262.76
Farmington	120.00
Fordland	38.00
Grace	35.00
S. Fremont	70.00
Eastern Gate	20.00
Bethel, Festus	10.00
Grant Avenue	176.29
Berkeley	10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,460.38</b>



## Vacation Bible School



Challenge your VBS pupils with the great need of Home Missions. Send VBS offerings to Home Missions General Fund and Deficit Missionary Accounts. Get your free Story Time Lessons on Home Missions and other free materials. Send gifts to National Home Missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.



# Minute Meditation

by Gary Fry



**To meditate . . . "To think or reflect upon, to revolve in one's mind."**  
— Webster's Unabridged

When I was a kid in school, if the teacher caught me looking out the window with a look in my eye that said my mind was a million miles away, she called it daydreaming. One semester she even took it upon herself to write on my grade card that I would most certainly do better in school if I didn't involve myself so much in that particular activity!

Now days if a deacon steps into my study and sees me looking out the window with that same look in my eye, he assumes that I am meditating on Sunday's sermon or some deep theological question and quietly shuts the door so I won't be disturbed.

Isn't it amazing how a few years can change things. What was once considered as wasted time is now wisely used time. Except I have the suspicion that for many of us, it is more often daydreaming than meditation. And if we do take a minute or two for some good introspection or revolving God's Word in our mind, we are afraid to be seen lest we be accused of daydreaming.

But I fear that the real truth is that most of us just don't have time for such activity. If there is time to think, our minds are in such a whirl from all the things that occupy our days that we rarely find the quietude that is necessary for God's Word to really sink in. We may try to contemplate what God has said to us, but our problems often crash through and we soon can't hear God's voice for the din of everyday living.

It is no accident that God said "Be still and know that I am God." It is nigh to impossible to hear the voice of God when we listen to everything else going on around us first. God wants our attention, but He rarely shouts. God's prophet on the mountain did not hear God in the storm that raged nor the earthquake that followed. He heard His voice in the quietness that came after all the excitement. He heard God in a "still, small voice," deep in his soul.

God has much He wants to say to us if we will just listen to Him. While He speaks through the sermon or Sunday School lesson, His best method is straight to our hearts as

we pray and meditate on His Word. Let's give Him the chance.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Minute Meditation has a new writer, Gary Fry. Gary is serving as pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Mtn. Grove, MO. He is the Assistant Moderator of the Missouri State Association, is on the Executive Committee, Planning Commission, and is actively involved in Local, State and National activities of Free Will Baptist work. I believe the Gem readers will enjoy reading his monthly articles.

Gene Crewse, who has written this article for the past few years, asked to be relieved of this responsibility. I appreciate the labor of love that Gene has given in preparing helpful and challenging articles.

## Calendar of Events

### MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION & WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

June 3-6

Grace Church, Arnold, MO

### YOUTH CAMP

#### Dates:

Teen Camp, Group I - June 16-21

Teen Camp, Group II - June 23-28

Pre-Teen Camp, Group I - July 28-August 2

Pre-Teen Camp, Group II - August 4-9

#### Group I

Greater Springfield

Bootheel

Indian Creek

Central Western

Mission

Cave Springs

Liberty

Niangua

#### Group II

Greater Kansas City

Northwest

South Central

Northeast

St. Louis

St. Francois

Laclede

#### Suggestion:

**Put Youth Camp information on Bulletin Board**

### NATIONAL CONVENTION - WNAC & NYC

July 21-25

Charleston, W. VA

### MO. STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY RETREAT

August 23-24

Stonecroft Conference Center, Branson, MO

### MO. STATE ASSOC. OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

202 West Commercial  
Lebanon, Missouri 65536

FWB BIBLE COLLEGE  
LIBRARY & FACULTY  
3606 WEST END AVE.  
NASHVILLE TN 37205

NON-PROFIT  
BULK RATE  
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