

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Volume 61, No. 12, December 1991

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*"For unto you is born a...savior which is
Christ the Lord"*

Luke 2:11



Reports from the Churches



Morning Worship

GRANT AVENUE CELEBRATES 35TH ANNIVERSARY — Sunday, October 20, 1991, was a great day for Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church in Springfield, Missouri, writes the Church Reporter.

Grant Avenue celebrated its 35th anniversary with a Homecoming celebration that was attended by a record crowd of 262. Grant Avenue has celebrated Homecoming and anniversaries in the past, but this one seemed to be the best ever. Many former members returned to renew old acquaintances, and the fellowship, sharing and recalling of precious memories, made the celebration especially enjoyable.

The morning worship was attended by several county and city officials. Springfield Mayor Tom Carlson briefly addressed the congregation and commended them on their contribution to the city. Also recognized in the service were County Commissioner David Coonrod and Councilperson Norma Champion.



Mayor Tom Carlson

Four charter members were present and recognized in the service. They were: Delma Branson, Wanda Donaldson, and Melvin and Charlene Whittaker. Special plaques of appreciation were presented to Lee Evans who served on the very first Deacon Board and to Melvin Whittaker who served on the very first Trustee Board.

Homecoming activities were highlighted by a delicious meal prepared by the ladies of the church. Nearly 200 people flooded the fellowship hall with plates full of delicious food, and everyone enjoyed good conversation with Christian friends. Following the meal, the gospel group "Resurrection" from Mansfield blessed the Homecoming celebration with an afternoon concert. Before the

concert began, former Grant Avenue pastor Grover Terry addressed the Homecoming crowd and recalled his former days as a minister at Grant Avenue and challenged the church to continue to build upon the foundation that had been laid.

Everyone seemed to have thoroughly enjoyed the Homecoming activities.



Charter members: Delma Branson, Wanda Donaldson & family, Melvin and Charlene Whittaker.



Lee Evans, Pastor Gaskins, and Melvin Whittaker

WONDERFUL REVIVAL AT BEACON — The church reporter writes, The Beacon Church, Raytown, Missouri, is praising the Lord for a stirring revival with evangelist Bob Thomas of Lexington, Oklahoma. Brother Thomas is in full-time evangelism. Pastor Harrison states, "I wholeheartedly recommend Bob Thomas as a man totally committed to revival. Our people, young and old, were stirred to present themselves for God's service."

Typical comments concerning the revival include: "Brother Thomas brought a simplicity and vitality to the Word that could only be Spirit led. His commitment, and God's Holy Word, shouted out to us to go forth and make disciples," by Mike Gloyd. "Through the anointed singing and preaching of Brother Thomas, God has drawn me closer and made me aware of His presence and guidance each day. He has strengthened me in my Christian walk and increased my desire to submit my life to His will," by Russell Neill.

Anyone desiring to contact Brother Thomas may reach him at Peacan Tree Estates, #2, Lexington, OK 73051. Phone 405-872-7249.

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.

PLEASANT HOME CHURCH HAS WALK-A-THON —The Pleasant Home Free Will Baptist Church, near Mtn. Grove, Missouri, held a 9-Mile Walk-A-Thon to benefit the rebuilding of the Mission Hospital in Doropo, Ivory Coast.

The walkers ranged in ages from 4 to 86. The walk resulted in \$428.00 for the hospital project.

Rev. Danny Douglas is pastor of the church.

OLD FASHIONED DAY AT ROCK CHAPEL —

The Rock Chapel Free Will Baptist Church held an Old Fashioned Day on Sunday, October 6, 1991, writes the pastor Rev. Gary Mitchener.

The Young Adult Class was responsible for a fine program. The elderly of the church were honored, and charter members present were recognized. Charter members recognized were: Frank Raney, Argyl Housley, Pod and Ruth Owens, and Euall Smith.

Rev. Mitchener continues, We are thankful for the older members, who have worked to help the young couples in their labor for the Lord. We are also thankful for the many young couples and their children who will someday be carrying on this work of the Lord.

Everyone enjoyed the delicious noon meal and the singing in the afternoon.



Rev. & Mrs. Gary Mitchener & Family



Honorees at Rock Chapel



Charter members with Shelby Housley



Jack, Freida, Deacons & Trustees



Black Oak Church

DEDICATION SERVICE AT BLACK OAK — On Sunday, November 3, 1991, the Black Oak Free Will Baptist Church held a Dedication Service for the new Fellowship Area/Classrooms Addition to the present building.

Following the Sunday School hour, the pastor, Rev. Jack Day, gave a warm welcome to an auditorium filled with members and friends of the church. With excitement in his voice he expressed appreciation to every member who had supported this building endeavor with their prayers, finances and their own personal labor. The congregation enjoyed singing songs of praise to the Lord for His goodness and blessings.

Rev. Clarence Burton preached the Dedicatory Message. He mentioned in his opening remarks that the Black Oak Church had made remarkable progress. He noted that the church had experienced three building programs in the past few years. And, beginning with their present pastor, the church has grown in attendance from approximately 20 to the present attendance that Sunday of 154. In his message, he stated that this can only happen when a church has a pastor and wife that will lead the church in United Prayer, Uncompromising Purpose and Unselfish with Possessions. The church is to be commended for its support of a total ministry for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev. Jack Day led the congregation in the meaningful Act of Dedication, and the beautiful Prayer of Dedication was led by Lloyd Clift.

The ladies of the church served a delicious dinner in the new spacious Fellowship Area.

At the Afternoon Service everyone enjoyed the wonderful gospel singing and instrument playing by several guests and members of the church.

Following the dismissal prayer, a deacon of the church said, "This has been a day of rejoicing. God has been good to us."



Prayer of Dedication

CHURCH FURNITURE DEDICATED AT CONWAY CHURCH — On Sunday, September 29, the Calvary Church at Conway, Missouri, held a special Dedication Service. The dedication was for the beautiful new padded pews that had been installed in the auditorium.

The Sunday services began with a wonderful Sunday School hour and Morning Worship. The ladies served a delicious lunch in the Fellowship Area during the noon hour.

The Dedication Service began at 2:00 p.m. with lively and enjoyable congregational and special singing. Rev. Bill Knapp, a former pastor, delivered the message. The service closed with everyone gathering at the altar for the Prayer of Dedication.

Rev. James Crawford, pastor of the church, states, "We are very thankful to the Lord that the church funds were available when the pews were installed."

CELEBRATION DAY AT CALVARY CHAPEL — Sunday, October 27, 1991, was designated as Celebration Day at the Calvary Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Buffalo, Missouri.

The pastor, Rev. Doug Earls, welcomed the members and friends of the church and stated, "There may be some folks who feel that they do not have much to celebrate because of the economic conditions and because of the political instability in the world. If one only listens to the bad news, it may seem there is no good news. But there is Good News for the Christian, for our stability doesn't rest on world conditions, but rather our trust is in God." Rev. Earls challenged the congregation to live for God and labor for God inasmuch as our labor is not in vain in the Lord.

The Calvary Chapel Church, by having this Celebration Sunday, wanted to express to the community that we have much for which to celebrate. It has been shown that in hard times the Lord can manifest Himself in a much more obvious way than in good times. The Lord has been good to the Calvary Chapel Church. He has blessed with growth, both numerically and financially. Many new families have visited with the church, and they have found a place of worship and labor.

Rev. Clarence Burton delivered a challenging message, using as his subject "Celebration." He made clear that we ought to: Celebrate God's Creation, Celebrate His Word (Inspiration), and Celebrate Salvation.

The ladies of the church served a delicious noon meal that was enjoyed in the Fellowship Hall.

The Afternoon Service was a time of thanksgiving. Many shared their testimonies of the blessings the Lord had given in their fellowship with the Calvary Chapel Church and in the community. One of the new members said, "I have enjoyed this day. We do have something for which to celebrate!"



The ones who shared testimonies



A happy group



Young people at chuck wagon



Gary, Betsy, Anna, Bill, and Barbara

Sunday School Attendance Averages May 1991 - October 1991

CHURCHES	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
Belton	66	63	59	61	57	
Bethel, El Dorado	59	67	60	59	61	68
Calvary Fellowship	192					
Cape Girardeau	67	56	68	69	82	70
Central	91	99	82	102	102	102
Copper Mines	60	63	63	76	61	
DeSoto	203	184			183	179
Farmington	346	369	352	405	378	432
Flat River, First	111	111	108	110	108	110
Hannon	98	90	101	86	102	106
Harmony	66	69	64	79	78	73
Hartville	101	96	93	92	99	
Hopewell	37	33	47	40	37	29
Houston	82	87	84	81	86	102
Lebanon, First	87	86	91	84	92	103
Marshfield	34	33	30	28	28	26
Myrtle	31	33	30	37	36	39
Overland	37	32			38	
Parkview	52	57	54	56	53	56
Potosi	52	51	56	54		
Richwoods	51	32				
Rock Chapel	73	75	62	75	70	76
Springfield, First		122	120		124	137
Thayer	130		119			122
United, West Plains	181	183	175			193
Willow Springs	64	59	62	63	61	65
Verdella	61	72	70	63	74	

The above is only a partial listing — there are 177 Free Will Baptist churches in Missouri. Each church is encouraged to send in the Sunday School averages each month.

Garth L. Kirk Home With The Lord

Garth L. Kirk entered into eternal rest with His Lord, October 13, 1991, following a seventeen month battle with cancer. Garth was a charter member of the Chapel of the Ozarks Free Will Baptist Church at Rocky Comfort, Mo. He had served faithfully on the board of trustees for twelve years.

He touched many lives doing recitations for the Lord. Among many favorites was "The Apple Tree" and "Jimmy." He kept his faith and trust in the Lord, always, being confident that God was in control. His last request to his wife was to "get the children ready, so everyone could be at Home together." Garth's life truly fulfilled the Scripture II Timothy 4:7 - "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." He will be sadly missed by his family and all those who knew him.

One or the other must leave,
One or the other must stay.
One or the other must grieve,
This is forever the way.

This is the vow that is sworn
Faithful 'till death do us part.
Braving what has to be borne,
Hiding the ache in the heart.

One howsoever adorned,
First must be summoned away.
This is the will of the Lord,
One or the other must stay.

Information Concerning Missouri State Retirement Program

In order for a pastor, associate pastor, or full-time youth minister to participate in the Retirement Program, the church he is serving must support the Missouri State Cooperative Program with the full 10% of its regular tithes and offerings. As is shown in the cooperative disbursement each month, this ministry is funded through cooperative giving. (The associate pastor and/or full-time youth minister must receive his salary from the church as a full-time employee.)

A Retirement Pension Enrollment Form supplied by the State Office shows the two plans for participation in the program. Plan 1 is defined as Full Employer Participation with the church contributing at least 5% of the base salary.

Plan 2 is defined as the Individual Plan with the employer contributing at least 3% of the base salary. The term life insurance for \$25,000 is \$13.00 monthly for Plan 1, but optional for Plan 2. A \$10.00 Enrollment Fee is paid to the Board of Retirement & Insurance in Nashville, Tennessee. This may be paid through the State Office, but it goes to the Board of Retirement & Insurance.

Tax Deferred Contribution information: Only 20% of base salary is allowed for total tax deferred contributions. The 20% includes both Salary Reduction Agreement (SRA) (this SRA form may be obtained from the State Office or the Board of Retirement & Insurance) and employer (church) contributions. Base salary is taxable income which excludes benefits such as housing allowance. Ministers may include compensation for honorariums, revival offerings, etc. Older ministers may, under certain circumstances, exceed the 20% by completing a form.

A new SRA may be filed once in any 12 month period. It is not retroactive. Increases may not be credited prior to the date of signature.

It is a member's responsibility to maintain and keep accurate records for tax liability and reports to IRS. It is recommended that you keep all SRA forms, semi-annual statements, and correspondence, and that you seek competent counsel in all tax matters.

All tax deferred contributions are subject to income taxes the year of withdrawal or distribution. Early withdrawals may be subject to an added 10% penalty. At retirement, distributions for ordained members may be designated housing allowance and tax free (determined by current IRS regulations). Distributions from tax deferred funds to unordained spouses are subject to taxes.

Twice each year, shortly following January 1 and July 1, the Board of Retirement & Insurance, who holds and handles the Missouri State Retirement Fund, will transfer the amount stated by the Missouri State Association to the account of the participant. Presently the amount is \$240.00. Before this transfer is made the treasurer of the local church is asked to sign a form, sent from the State Office, stating that the church has supported the Missouri State Cooperative Program with the full 10% of its regular tithes and offerings.

There are several options at retirement. Space will not permit including all of this information. This information may be obtained from the State Office. Please do not hesitate to call, write, or come by for any help that is needed.

Homegoing of Sister Donna Williford

On September 30, 1991, at 9:15 p.m. our sister in Christ, Donna Williford, went to meet the Lord after a two-year battle with cancer.

Brother Ken Dodson, a long-time family friend, and Brother Sterl Paramore, Donna's present pastor, officiated at the funeral service conducted October 4, 1991, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Farmington. The service was a lovely tribute to Donna and, most of all, a tribute to the Lord she served. The songs were of praise for what Christ has done for us and a message of hope to all that believe. A clear gospel message was presented as it was Donna's greatest desire for her family and friends to accept her Lord.

Sister Donna was an active member in the ministry of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Flat River. She served as a member and former President of the Woman's Auxiliary, a member of the Hospitality Committee, a nursery attendant, a substitute Sunday School teacher, and as a Children's Church worker. In addition, Donna participated in the Christian Woman's Club of Farmington. Her efforts and willingness to help wherever she could will be sorely missed.

Donna had commented during her last series of radiation treatments that she was at peace and had committed her life into the Lord's hands for Him to do as He saw fit. Her testimony was radiant as various ones commented, "She was ready."

Her loved ones: husband (Rick), son (Kevin), and daughter (Mindy) wish to express their thanks for the many cards and letters of encouragement; your outpouring of love to them during this difficult time has been a great help.

As believers we are strengthened by the Word of God - I Thessalonians 4:13, "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope." Yes, we will meet again - our hope is His promise.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Donna Williford was a living testimony of a Christian wife, mother, and laborer for the Lord. She and her family are dear friends. She will be missed by all of us who knew her and loved her dedicated Christian commitment to Christ.

Christmas Celebration For Missionaries Jerry & Carol Pinkerton



Marie Hanna Woman's Auxiliary Members



Shirley Jackson, president - Woman's Auxiliary, and Carol with string of \$1 bills



Pinkertons with teen class and Christmas wreath of \$50.

The Marie Hanna Women's Auxiliary of Trinity Free Will Baptist Church in Bridgeton, Mo., spearheaded a Christmas celebration for the visit of missionaries Jerry & Carol Pinkerton on September 29. On arrival for Sunday School, we received our Christmas motif bulletins. Jerry conducted the adult class and showed a video of their work to the people of the Ivory Coast, and preached a challenging message in the morning service. He also showed the skin of a thirteen plus foot python capable of devouring young children.

The worship hour was dismissed to the fellowship hall where there was a beautifully decorated Christmas tree, poinsettias, tables with red coverings, Christmas napkins, and tables laden with food prepared by the membership. There were numerous gifts under the tree for the honorees to open - items chosen from a need list published prior to the day of service.

At dessert time, a decorated birthday cake was brought forward for Carol and the singing of "Happy

Birthday." At gift opening time, Carol received a neatly wrapped package that resulted in 50 one-dollar bills taped together and unfolding when opened.

After the Christmas feast, the younger children were very excited in getting to hand packages to our missionaries for opening. Some items received were: 35mm film, lots of bubble gum, packets of salad dressing mix, nuts, chapsticks, dry soup mix, video tapes, transparent sheets, and the like. Also, the church gave \$500, plus a love offering taken totaling \$1,033.70. A Christmas wreath made of money in the amount of \$50 was given by our teens.

At the afternoon closure, after a wonderful day of celebration and learning the true meaning of Christmas, our missionary friends departed in order to make an evening service at Marshall, Mo. They also took with them prayers and good wishes of our Trinity Family, in that, they'll be successful in reaching their goal of leaving the states on November 20 to resume their work in the Ivory Coast.

Church Needs National Pastor: Baileys Face Deficit

Nashville, Tenn. — Ken and Judy Bailey, missionaries serving at the Iriso Free Will Baptist Church in Japan, have been faithfully seeking to develop leadership in the church. Although they have a Japanese Bible college senior in the church, they do not yet have a pastor to take over the Iriso church when they leave.

This is serious since the Baileys' missionary account was over \$9,400 in the red at the end of September. Their expenses for the month of September exceeded their income by over \$400. Though they requested permission to extend their term of service due to the need for a Japanese pastor, if this deficit is not erased, the Baileys might be forced to return to the United States for an early furlough. They must have adequate monthly support in order to remain on the field.

Missouri has been faithful in supporting the foreign missions program. A special effort at this time could enable Ken and Judy to remain in Japan while they seek to find someone to carry on the work. Christians have been urged to pray that God would supply both the financial needs of the Baileys and the leadership needs of the church.

Indian Creek Association Holds Missions Conference

The Indian Creek Association held its annual Missionary Conference, November 3-9, writes Lita Munn, clerk for the association.

Three foreign missionaries: Curt Holland Family (appointees to Brazil), Dr. Paul Gentuso Family (appointees to Ivory Coast), Jerry and Carol Pinkerton (missionaries to Ivory Coast); and one state home missionary - Jim Mertz, Wentzville, Mo., were the missionaries who shared in the conference.

On Saturday, November 9, the association met at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Monett for the final meeting of the Missions Conference. It was a wonderful time of fellowship and rejoicing. The total amount of money given for the missions work was \$15,338.52.

Mrs. Munn continues, we are thankful for the privilege of having the missionaries share with us and for the Indian Creek Association to share in the missions work.



Looking Out My Parsonage Window

by Ve Ann Tilson

Men are charged with a unique leadership role, based not upon temporary cultural norms, but on permanent facts of creation (I Cor. 11:3-16). This leadership is not domination of his wife, but rather, is a partner-like leadership based upon the respect inherent in love. The husband's leadership role in the marriage invests him with responsibility before God for the direction of family living. The wife should support, encourage and strengthen this leadership.

Yet, the trend in the past few years has first been to eliminate the father from family leadership and replace him with the mother. Now Mom is being eliminated and the children are replacing her. Look around . . . children are often dominating the family. Parents, particularly the fathers, need to reassert parental leadership. The Bible says, "the husband is to be the head of the wife." Families are in danger today and a primary reason is the role reversal found in many homes.

Every husband is ultimately responsible to God for what his home becomes. In I Corinthians Paul says: "The head of every man is Christ and the head of the woman is the man, and the head of Christ is God." This puts the responsibility on the husband/father to exercise leadership within the home. Biblical leadership for the husband is the divine calling to take primary responsibility for Christian servant-leadership, protection and provision in the home (Piper, 1990). This is a role not intended for the woman, but often assumed by her, because some men refuse to accept their responsibilities. Men often readily accept this duty in the business world, but when they get home they expect everything to roll along without any thought, direction or leadership on their part.

Paul sets forth another mandate in Ephesians 5: "Husbands love your wives as Christ loved the Church." A wife should be a husband's greatest asset, his greatest possession. The key phrase is "as Christ loved the Church." Christ was realistic with His love. His love was not prompted by anything in us at all. He loved sacrificially. He "...gave Himself for" the church. Christ loved the church purposefully. The husband should seek a deepening unity with his wife in thought, expression, and in shared life. Christ loved the church willfully. Not an affair of emotion, but an activity of the whole

self, including the will. Finally, Christ loved the church absolutely. No limits...not conditionally, but freely.

Another husband/wife relationship that has gone to the way-side is submission. What is Biblical submission? For the wife, it is the divine calling to honor and affirm her husband's leadership (Piper, 1990). Husbands can take their proper place at the head of the house only as the wife respects and honors their wishes. It is easy for a wife to be submissive to a husband who has earned her love and respect, and who treats her in a manner as directed in Ephesians 5:21-33. The same authority that requires submission on the one part also demands love on the other's part.

The most successful marriages operate on a democratic basis, which gives both an opportunity to exercise their identity in their interrelationship. However, in democracy, there must be a head! The responsibility for the success or failure upon the marriage weighs heavily upon the husband. This is the design of God in creation; it cannot be changed, though it is often corrupted by disobedience. The ideal marriage is designed by God, desired by God, and defended by God. He has given us a road map for the proper male/female relationships. The question is, how many of us are willing to follow it?



Points for Pastors

by James McAllister

In my opinion there are certain areas in the church that can make or break the opportunities of growth. One of them is the music of the church.

In the surveys taken of the large fast growing churches, the five main reasons they grow and the people say they attend are: 1) they like the preacher; 2) they like the music; 3) they like the friendliness; 4) they like the location; and 5) they like the denomination.

There is no question that most people enjoy good gospel music. The charismatics, with all their doctrinal

errors, have used music to attract people and draw them into their church. We have failed to realize the potential in gospel music. Music can attract people; music can draw people into the church; music can touch the emotions; music can assist the preacher; music can help build the church.

In many of our churches music is second class. There is no organization, and little direction. Song books that are not even doctrinally sound are used instead of our own Free Will Baptist hymnals, or other recognized hymn books. The song service is often far too long, consisting of too many congregational songs, and too many special numbers that are too often ill prepared.

If the music program of the church is well organized, interesting, enjoyable, and inspirational, it will be a tremendous asset to the spiritual and numerical growth of the church.

Report From The Youth Camp Board

The Youth Camp Board would like to remind all of our churches that our camp superintendent, Rev. Ken Goff, is available through the winter months for "Camp Day" services in your church. Rev. Goff is currently preparing a slide presentation to show recent improvements made at the camp, and also share plans and needs for our Missouri State Youth Camp for the future. If you are interested in having Brother Ken come to your church, he may be contacted at Free Will Baptist Youth Camp, HCR-83, Box 22, Niangua, MO 66713, phone (417) 473-6444.

Due to the rising costs of maintaining our Missouri State Youth Camp, and also due to plans for improvements to the Camp and the to Camp program, there will be an

increase in the fees for campers this coming year. The fee will be rising from \$35.00 to \$40.00. The Camp Board has held off as long as possible with this increase, but feels that in order to keep up with improvements to our camp the raise is necessary.

If you would be interested in teaching at any of our Camp sessions for the upcoming year or if you know of someone who would be interested, please contact Bro. Vernon Long, 218 Woodlawn Drive, Leadington, MO 63601, phone (314) 431-3860, or Bro. Lonnie Skiles, Route 5, Box 239, Festus, MO 63028, phone (314) 937-4323. The camp dates for 1992 are: Group I Teen, June 14-18; Group II Teen, June 21-26; Group I Pre-Teen, July 26-31; and Group II Pre-Teen, August 2-7.

Hazel Scott Memorial for Youth Camp

A Memorial Fund in memory of Sister Hazel Scott has been established for the Youth Camp Ministry. Sister Scott was a long time active member of the First FWB Church, Flat River, Mo. She went home to be with the Lord August 25, 1991. Rev. Ken Goff, a former pastor of the church, states, "We are thankful that the Lord gave us the privilege of serving as pastor to Sister Scott for over twelve years. Truly she was a special person to my family and me."

The Youth Camp Board Superintendent, Rev. Ken Goff, would like to

express special recognition and appreciation to Sister Scott's children: Melba, Rock Hill, MO; Dorothy, Hemet, CA; and Harold, Leadington, MO. They gave gifts totaling \$255.00 in memory of their mother. They recognized that their mother had a strong concern for young people and had a desire to help them.

Anyone wishing to make a contribution to the Hazel Scott Memorial Fund should send the gifts to Missouri State Youth Camp, HCR-83, Box 22, Niangua, MO 65713.

The Beauty of Biology

by Pam Hudson

THE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

A few weeks ago, our church was privileged to have Dr. Harold Slusher as a guest speaker. Dr. Slusher is a renowned geophysicist from the University of Texas-Austin. Dr. Slusher is also a fundamentalist Christian and a creation scientist. What a marvelous testimony he shared with us concerning the evidences that support a biblical account of creation. Dr. Slusher is convinced that the earth is less than 10,000 years old and that any "dating" process that would suggest otherwise is mere "popycock."

Dr. Slusher spoke at great lengths to include the numerous examples of the physical earth that support his beliefs. Oil wells, he said, were the most misunderstood natural phenomenon. According to physical differential equations, the very presence of pressure in an oil well negates the far-reaching notion that it could be more than 10,000 years old. After "billions and billions" of years, the pressure, according to the laws of entropy, would be long gone.

Spiral arm galaxies, like our own Milky Way, cannot possibly be very old, according to Dr. Slusher. A spiral arm galaxy has a center (nucleus) and two extensions from that center (arms). The entire thing, made up of 1,000's of stars and solar systems (our own being a very minute part), rotates around the nucleus. The length of the galaxy is thought to be about 100,000 light years (the distance that light would travel in 100,000 years). Dr. Slusher used a simple example to demonstrate the marvel that God has made. If a man put on an overcoat without putting his arms into the sleeves (leaving the sleeves hanging free) and began to rotate, the sleeves after sometime would wrap themselves around the man's body and would no longer be free swinging arms. That's how a spiral arm galaxy works! If the galaxies were as old as some people would have us to believe, they would long ago have wrapped themselves up leaving no "arms."

Isn't it amazing how brilliant men can overlook some very simple facts? "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools." Romans 1:22

Essentials of Evangelism

by Stanley Jones

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article by Brother Jones will be the last one for the GEM. He states, "I would like to thank Brother Burton and the GEM readers for the opportunity to share some thoughts concerning revival and evangelism, for these past twelve years." As editor I think I can speak for the GEM readers and myself—Brother Stanley, we appreciate so much the articles you have shared with us. They have been relevant, challenging and motivating. May the Lord bless you and your family in your continued labor for the Lord.

Much is being said today about the work of the Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit. Men continue to draw conclusions concerning the Spirit's ministry, based on their own personal experiences. Personal experiences are good, only as they agree with Scripture. Therefore, let us look at the role of the Holy Spirit in revival and evangelism, as we find it revealed in the Word of God.

The New Testament Church en-

joyed the blessings of revival and evangelism because they depended on the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God gave power to speak. The servants of God who were involved in first century evangelism sought power to speak through prayer. They were not content to speak empty, dry sermons. They prayed for boldness to speak the Word. And their prayers were answered. They were filled with the Holy Ghost and "spoke the word of God with boldness," (Acts 4:31). The Spirit not only empowered them as they spoke, but taught them what to speak (John 16:13, John 14:26) Speaking the unction of the Spirit silenced the arguments and excuses of the opposition (Acts 4:8,13,14). These early evangelists relied on the Spirit to direct their evangelistic endeavors as to where they should preach (Acts 8:29-40, Acts 10:19,20).

It is evident that the first century church enjoyed the fruit of successful evangelism. Many were saved. At one time three thousand were added to the church (Acts 2:41). Another occasion witnessed five thousand believing (Acts 4:4). In Acts 6:7 the Scriptures record a great company of priests were also obedient. The city of Samaria

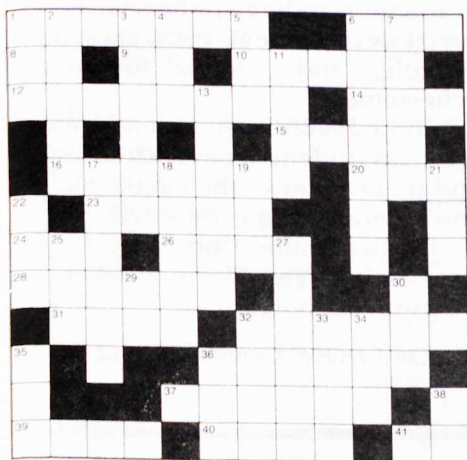
gave heed to the preaching of Philip (Acts 8:5,6). And many other incidents could be cited where men were brought to Christ.

This successful evangelism was assured by the power of the Spirit (Acts 1:8). By Paul's own testimony his effective ministry was the result of the Spirit's power. "My speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power" (I Cor. 2:4). It is the Spirit of God who strengthens the witness of the evangelist (Acts 5:30-32).

The Spirit of God gave conviction. Men who heard Peter preach under the anointing of the Spirit were brought under conviction (Acts 2:37). In John 16:8 it is made clear that conviction of sin is the work of the Holy Spirit. The messenger does not do this. It is the Spirit.

The Spirit of God gave reassurance of salvation. On the day of Pentecost, Peter told those who believe that God's gift to them was the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38,39). The Spirit dwells within those who keep God's commandments (I John 3:24). The indwelling Spirit gives assurance of our relationship as children of God (Rom. 8:16, Gal. 4:6).

PUZZLE 10



ACROSS

1. An extraordinary event showing God's work (I Cor. 12:10)
6. A tool. Hint: Use the modern spelling. (Ex. 21:6)
8. "Be ye therefore merciful, _____ your Father also is merciful." (Luke 6:36)
9. "Let your light _____ shine before men" (Matt. 5:16)
10. A Psalm of _____ (Ps. 50)
12. Mary and Joseph's home (Luke 2:39)
14. Used for anointing (I Sam. 10:1)
15. The direction from which the wise men came (Matt. 2:1)
16. In the beginning God _____ the heavens and earth. (Gen. 1:1)

DOWN

20. Number of Commandments (Deut. 4:13)
23. "I am _____ and Omega" (Rev. 1:8)
24. Roman numeral 3
26. "Better is a dinner of _____s where love is" (Prov. 15:17)
28. I call to my servant, but he gives me no _____. (Job 19:16)
31. "The Lord is good . . . to the soul that _____eth him." (Lam. 3:25)
32. ". . . Who shall _____ into heaven?" (Rom. 10:6)
36. ". . . _____, _____ it shall be given you" (Luke 11:9)
37. Therefore whoever wishes to be a _____ of the world makes himself an enemy of God. (James 4:4)
39. An example of 1 across: Jesus changed water into _____. (John 2:1-11)
40. "Thou prepares _____ ble before me" (Ps. 23:5)
41. "_____ these nations feared the Lord" (II Kings 17:41)
13. The 17th book of the Old Testament
17. Jesus _____ Lazarus from the dead. (John 11:1-46)
18. A city of the tribe of Asher (Josh. 19:30)
19. Bored with 6 across, as a sign of servitude (Ex. 21:5,6)
21. Old Testament; _____ Testament
22. A Gadite (I Chr. 5:13)
25. "Remember not the s_____ of my youth" (Ps. 25:7)
27. Paul was lowered over the wall in a _____. (Acts 9:25)
29. Are _____ beginning to commend ourselves again? (II Cor. 3:1)
30. "_____ he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children" (Malachi 4:6)
32. Paul and Silas were forbidden to preach in _____. (Acts 16:6)
33. Cite of the marriage where Jesus changed water to 39 across (John 2:1)
34. Opposite of beginning (I Pet. 4:7)
35. "_____ the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus" (Heb. 13:20)
36. In King James version of Bible, Thou _____ (means you are)
38. ". . . Who shall bring me down _____ the ground?" (Obadiah 3)

(Answers in next month's GEM)

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Historical Commission Report

The clerk of the Historical Commission, Rev. James Barker, sends this report.

The Historical Commission held two meetings in 1991. The meetings were held at the State Office Building in Lebanon, Missouri. The first meeting was held on August 20, 1991, and the second meeting was held on October 29, 1991. The purpose for the meeting was to sort and file accumulated material in the Archives Room.

The October meeting was called to order by Rev. Cecil Campbell, chairman, who read I Thessalonians 2:1-11. Rev. John Schebaum led the group in prayer. Those attending were Rev. & Mrs. Cecil Campbell, Rev. & Mrs. John Schebaum, and Rev. & Mrs. James Barker.

The following Gem magazines are needed for the years 1952 through 1985:

1952 January	1960 January, February, April, September, October
1955 July, August, September	1966 March
1957 April	1971 December
1959 February, March, May, July, September, December	1980 October

If you have one or more of these needed Gems, and can give them to be placed in the Archives Room, please mail them to the Missouri State Association, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, MO 65536. It will be greatly appreciated.

Rev. Cecil Campbell, Chairman
Rev. James Barker, Clerk
Rev. John Schebaum

FWB Doctrines Study Available On Video

NASHVILLE, TENN. — Now you can study Free Will Baptist doctrines in your home or church, under the instruction of one of the denomination's most able teachers.

Dr. Robert Picirilli, Dean of Free Will Baptist Bible College and past moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, has completed six hours of lessons on what Free Will Baptists believe. The complete set - three VHS video tapes - is near-broadcast quality and has undergone field testing, according to Harrold Harrison, External Studies Director of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tenn. "Dr. Picirilli, in his always more than adequate preparation and presentation, has done an excellent service to the denomination in the release of these tapes," he says.

The study includes three dimensional headings, Scripture references, and whole-page outlines.

The set is available for \$59.95, plus postage and handling. Please direct orders to:

External Studies Department
Free Will Baptist Bible College
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205
615-383-1340

Graduate School To Feature Pastoral Epistles

NASHVILLE, TENN. — Dr. Stanley Outlaw will teach Paul's Pastoral Epistles at Free Will Baptist Bible College's next graduate session, December 30, 1991-January 3, 1992, according to Ralph Hampton, Dean of the Graduate School.

Dr. Outlaw teaches New Testament studies at the college. He also wrote the volume on the Pastoral Epistles for the Randall House Bible Commentary.

Rev. Hampton says the study will focus on Biblical principles that guide the pastor and his ministry.

The graduate course is part of the college's program for preachers, leading to a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies. Courses are one week long and enable pastors to pursue a graduate degree while continuing to pastor.

For more information on the course or on the graduate program, please write or call:

Graduate Studies
Free Will Baptist Bible College
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205
615-383-1340

Two Missouri Students Listed in Who's Who

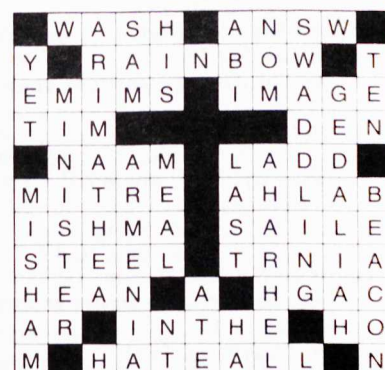
Eleven seniors at Free Will Baptist Bible College will be included in the 1992 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. The faculty selected and nominated the students, who were then approved by the national Who's Who Office in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The faculty considered each student's academic standing, spiritual maturity, social development, extra curricular activities, and potential for future achievement.

These FWBBC seniors join an elite group of students from 1,400 colleges and universities in the United States and several foreign countries.

The two seniors from Missouri are Greg Smith, West Plains, and Kenny Simpson, Farmington.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Congratulations!

Answers to last month's Puzzle 9



Financial Information

OCTOBER 1991

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

18.50%	Mo. State Home Missions Board	\$ 6,744.81
17.50%	Exec. Off. & Gem	6,380.22
3.50%	General Fund	1,276.04
8.50%	Youth Camp Bd.	3,098.97
2.50%	Youth Ministries Bd.	911.46
2.50%	C.E. Board	911.46
2.50%	Sr. Adult Ministries Board	911.46
5.00%	Mo. State Retirement Program	1,822.92
10.50%	Nat'l. Ministries, Hillsdale & Calif. Christian College	11,119.83
	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	
	(\$11.19 included in \$11,119.83)	
9.00%	State Office & Bookstore Bldg.	3,281.26
Total		\$36,458.43

With a heart filled with love for the Lord's bountiful blessings we continue to praise Him for what He is doing through faithful pastors and churches! October ended in the middle of the week, which allowed checks time to reach the State Office before the last day of the month - the day the books are balanced and gifts disbursed for that month.

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%.

OCTOBER 1991 RECEIPTS

COOPERATIVE

Verdella	\$ 169.02
Overland	136.85
Central	865.23
Clifton	63.93
Thayer	658.00
New Harmony	28.30
Oak Hill, Fredericktown	98.02
Hannon	429.00
Royal Oak	136.00
Victory, Alton	186.00
Crossroads	100.00
Liberty	318.26
Hurryville	330.01
Twin Oaks	837.98
Columbia	75.00
Beacon	1,500.00
Merl's Chapel	149.00
Calvary, Conway	203.79
Tyrone	97.40
Victory Hill	51.20
Bailey Chapel	68.00
Fourth	291.00
Lebanon	588.83
Rock Chapel	372.39
Seymour	130.00
Happy Home	108.37
Lingo	55.89
Heritage	130.63
Pleasant Ridge	100.00
Union Light	\$414.70
Belton	387.75
Mill Creek	235.75
Unity	246.31
Smyrna	241.00
Lone Star	34.30
Monett	761.19
Greenfield	196.00
Potosi	130.15
Willow Springs	246.83
Kingsway	302.08
West Plains First	402.97
West Plains First	537.04

Springfield First	755.81
Parkway, Sedalia	147.55
Mine La Motte	39.89
Kirkville	194.27
New Hope, Fredericktown	13.42
Black Oak	243.50
Joplin	461.59
Calvary Chapel	164.56
Terrill Road	121.00
Mt. Zion, Gower	56.50
Cabool	304.51
Mt. Pisgah	217.00
Waynesville	372.82
Desoto	1,028.00
Leadington	359.91
Cape Girardeau	792.11
Scott City	511.00
Macedonia	20.00
Freeman Chapel	252.86
Parkview	335.17
United, West Plains	778.99
Alton	225.00
Marshfield	234.73
Grace	1,016.00
Trinity	1,041.37
Flat River First	608.04
Stockton	134.59
Union Grove	157.50
Harmony, K.C.	834.00
Wolf Creek	312.85
Grant Avenue	671.62
New Life, Licking	217.03
Bethel, El Dorado	61.59
Koshkonong	142.60
Richwoods	397.00
Coppermines	226.45
Hopewell	169.00
Wilderness	457.00
Oak Hill, Union	443.32
Eastern Gate	328.82
Carthage	130.00
New Life Fellowship	3,828.66
Salem	30.00
Pleasant Hill	64.21
Old Liberty	92.63
Liberty	240.00
New Rock Springs	57.00
Farmington	2,164.74
St. Francois Ass'n.	18.00
Houston	310.99
Number One	35.02
Myrtle	162.42
Fordland	73.93
Verdella	172.14
Kingsway	287.33
Union Grove	200.00
New Hope, Fredericktown	15.22
Harmony, K.C.	1,313.00
Total	\$36,458.43

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Verdella	\$ 382.68
S. Hart	20.00
Central	217.50
Thayer	113.00
New Harmony	141.53
Hannon	554.00
Grant Avenue	691.02
Columbia	20.99
Beacon	1,015.00
Harmony, Seymour	65.00
Merl's Chapel	200.00
Candi Thompson	25.00
Fourth	70.00
Lebanon	75.00
Southside	185.00
O'Fallon	35.00
Rock Chapel	168.00
Blue Springs	75.00
Martinstown	100.00
Doyle Akeman	10.00
Pleasant Ridge	45.00
Belton	50.00
Monett	518.80
Greenfield	95.00
Houston	138.65
Niangua	55.00
West Plains First	20.00
West Plains First	420.28
Kirkville	59.75
Calvary Fellowship	1,055.42
C. Layman	10.00
Joplin	310.00
Calvary Chapel Mssn. Conf.	550.48
Calvary Chapel	98.00
Calvary Chapel W.A.	30.00
Richwoods	62.00

Greater Springfield Ass'n.	329.61
Fellowship Mission Conf.	237.75
Mt. Pisgah	100.00
Bethel, Festus	161.00
Desoto	412.00
Leadington	30.00
Macedonia	10.00
Freeman Chapel	433.00
Parkview	291.00
United, West Plains	54.86
Cuba	59.71
Mtn. Grove	91.00
Marshfield Mssn. Conf.	174.00
Marshfield	10.00
Grace	20.50
Trinity	1,375.97
Flat River First	136.60
Beacon In Memory Of R. Ratterree, J. Pilgrim & L. Cheatham	1,040.00
Grant Avenue	318.32
Kirkville	750.00
Faith, Oak Grove	50.00
Oak Grove, Cabool	65.00
Victory, K.C.	155.00
Viburnum	100.00
Parkview Mssn. Group	60.00
Oak Hill, Union	22.75
Youth Camp Campers & Workers	296.01
Oak Grove, Norwood	150.00
Eastern Gate	132.88
Carthage	51.00
New Life Fellowship	125.00
Greater Springfield Conf.	270.00
Lebanon Mssn. Conf.	398.66
B. Blair	40.00
Farmington	542.50
S.E. Dist. Ass'n.	300.00
Union Light	130.00
Blue Springs W.A.	75.00
Myrtle	150.00
Fordland	253.00
Fordland Mssn. Conf.	144.75
Verdella	374.76
Mtn. Grove	337.00
Victory, K.C.	520.12
Richwoods	82.00
Total	\$18,642.85

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Verdella	\$ 10.00
Central	155.00
Thayer	147.00
Hannon	10.00
Columbia	15.98
Beacon	285.00
Lebanon	5.00
O'Fallon	25.00
Rock Chapel	183.28
Blue Springs	20.00
Kirkville	34.75
Joplin	65.00
Richwoods	32.00
Mt. Pisgah	50.00
Desoto	200.00
Leadington	23.00
Parkview	48.00
Buffalo First	50.00
Mtn. Grove	40.00
Grace	115.00
Trinity	30.00
Flat River First	70.80
Wolf Creek	62.77
Grant Avenue	21.00
Victory, K.C.	48.00
Parkview Mssn. Group	10.00
Oak Hill, Union	26.00
Oak Grove, Norwood	75.00
Eastern Gate	10.00
Carthage	29.00
G. Keith	10.00
Union Light	25.00
Myrtle	142.00
Fordland	10.00
Verdella	20.00
Mtn. Grove	255.00
Richwoods	32.00
Total	\$2,415.58

STATE HOME MISSIONS

Central	\$ 20.00
Thayer	35.00
New Harmony	141.53
Hannon	214.50
Grant Avenue	218.68
Southeast District	25.00

Columbia	35.00
Fourth	10.00
Lebanon	55.00
Southside	20.00
O'Fallon	25.00
Pleasant Ridge	25.00
Monett	3.00
West Plains First	5.00
West Plains First	5.00
Calvary Fellowship	35.00
J.W. Rader	25.00
Richwoods	20.00
Greater Springfield Ass'n.	109.89
Friendship Mssn. Conf.	79.25
Bethel, Festus	20.00
Desoto	50.00
Leadington	5.00
WNAC	4.75
Macedonia	25.00
Parkview	5.00
United, West Plains	44.86
Cuba	119.42
Mtn. Grove	44.00
Marshfield Mssn. Conf.	58.00
Marshfield	23.47
Grace	35.00
Trinity	65.00
Flat River, First	65.80
Grant Avenue	135.91
Viburnum	8.00
Oak Hill, Union	34.50
Youth Camp Campers & Workers	513.54
Eastern Gate	20.00
New Life Fellowship	125.00
Greater Springfield Conf.	180.00
Lebanon Mssn. Conf.	64.34
Farmington	120.00
Union Light	61.00
Myrtle	68.00
Fordland	43.00
Fordland Mssn. Conf.	48.25
Mtn. Grove	52.00
Richwoods	15.00
Total	\$3,160.69

YOUTH CAMP

Thayer	\$ 30.00
Hannon	15.00
Willow Springs	10.00
West Plains First	100.74
Calvary Fellowship	39.00
Desoto	50.00
Mt. Pisgah	10.00
Macedonia	10.00
Buffalo First	50.00
Mtn. Grove	20.00
Trinity	14.00
Flat River First	85.48
Bethel, El Dorado	15.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
Liberty	500.00
New Rock Springs	10.00
Myrtle	48.00
Grant Avenue	85.00
Total	\$1,102.22

FWBCC

Thayer	\$ 30.00
Beacon	75.00
Calvary Fellowship	35.75
Desoto	35.00
Grant Avenue	100.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
Farmington	126.00
Total	\$411.75

HILLSDALE COLLEGE

Central	\$ 30.00
Thayer	35.00
Hannon	50.00
Beacon	100.00
Calvary Fellowship	35.75
Grant Avenue	10.00
Oak Hill, Union	22.00
Farmington	133.00
Victory, K.C.	58.61
Total	\$474.36

CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Farmington	\$35.00
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ALABAMA CHILDREN'S HOME

Myrtle	\$4.86
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CHILDREN'S HOME, GREENVILLE, TN

Desoto	\$50.00
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*A Wonderful Thanksgiving,
A Blessed Merry Christmas,
and A Great New Year!*



*Clarence
& Vivian*

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