

# **THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM**

Volume 63, No. 6, June 1993

*Celebrate  
Real  
Freedom*

*"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."*

*John 8:36*



# Finally Home

by Tokuko Amano, translated by Ruth McDonald\*

Before I met Christ, whenever I met with problems my heart cried, "Somebody please help!" But no matter how much I searched and pled, there was no savior to be found. So I came to think that unless I could somehow become a stronger, more self-sufficient person, I would be completely overcome by pain and despair. From childhood I remember thinking that, more than anything, I wanted the emotional strength to overcome my suffering and pain.

For some reason -- maybe our poverty, maybe my very brief encounter with a Christian Sunday School, or maybe my interest in Western stories -- I had a curiosity about Christianity from childhood. But my curiosity was only that -- I thought that having faith was the coward's way of escape when he couldn't face life's difficulties. I rejected the whole idea, feeling that I wanted to work hard at solving my own problems.

My earliest memories of home are of my drunken grandmother. My father was very ill with tuberculosis and we all lived together in the shadow of poverty and illness. My grandmother coped with my father's condition by drinking -- so much so that she became a completely different person. She always compared me to my favored younger brother, showing me not affection but hatred. We were very poor and there was seldom anything but rice to eat; but if we had a little fish, my grandmother ate it herself instead of feeding it to the children. She would go from house to house in her drunken fits of rage and I was deeply ashamed to be from such a home. I hated to go to school and I feared the thought of my classmates coming to my home.

As I grew to Junior High age, I realized that my meek and soft-hearted parents who couldn't stand up to my grandmother were also to be pitied. And I realized that, above all, my grandmother was to be pitied because she was loved by literally no one. I came to see her as what she was -- a lonely,

pitiful old lady. Both the giver and receiver of suffering are truly equally tragic.

I remember thinking that the human life is only grief and suffering. I felt no love for my family and I knew no way out of life's sorrow. When I remember my childhood, I remember nothing but a deep sadness that felt like someone had put a lead weight in the depths of my heart. Gradually, like a small sea animal crawls into its shell, I withdrew more and more into my own sorrow. By High School age, I had dropped out of school and developed such emotional problems that I lost large amounts of hair and had patches of baldness. I was caught in a vicious cycle -- hating my home, yet fearing to venture out into the world.

I became an adult and got married. At 21 years of age, I learned I was pregnant. But we were very poor and my husband was upset, not wanting the baby. So I decided to have an abortion. I am now 42, so it's been more than 20 years ago now. But until I met Christ in August of 1992, I could not forgive myself for this horrible act. Though I never voiced it, deep in my heart I blamed my husband for the guilt I felt. Our relationship became stormy as a result, and I'm sure my husband suffered as much as I the consequences of the abortion.

In August of '92, after a prolonged struggle with lung cancer, my husband passed away. Though not a Christian, he had no special regard for Buddhism and the exorbitant fee the priests charge for funerals. So he requested that his funeral be held in a Christian church. We didn't have a relationship with any Christian church, so I looked for one in the phone book and called the Ai no Sato Free Will Baptist Church.

At the funeral, a verse at the front of the sanctuary caught my eye and afterwards I could not get it out of my head. It was Galatians 5:1. "Stand fast there-

fore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free." At that time of special grief, I felt I could not go on living with my weight of sin and pain. More than anything, I wanted to be free! I decided that if Christ could truly make me free, I wanted to become a Christian. "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." (1 Cor. 1:18)

I began attending Sunday morning worship and week day Bible study and learned about the cross. For the first time, I understood that my lifelong desire to be emotionally self-sufficient was a goal born of pride. I had been unable to see just how weak I really was. I was convicted for my failure to seek God's help and my great sin of unbelief.

In giving my life over to Christ, I discovered Him as my true Helper and Savior -- the only one who can really solve all my problems. I received assurance of salvation in Christ and accepted His love. "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (1 Jn. 4:10) "Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us." (1 Jn. 3:16)

In all my human relationships, I've never experienced a love that even begins to compare to the perfect love I now know in Christ. In Him, I know I've finally found a home.

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*\*Mrs. Amano was baptized and became a member of the Ai no Sato Free Will Baptist Church on Dec. 13, 1992. This is her testimony as she gave it on the day of her baptism. She is currently taking an active role in the Sunday School and women's group and her countenance truly radiates the joy of the Lord.*

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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. Nathan Ruble, 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.



## 1993 Truth and Peace Leadership Conference Participants Announced

The 1993 Truth & Peace Leadership Conference will be held July 5 - 21, in Nashville, Tennessee, and Louisville, Kentucky. This year's theme, *Take A Stand*, will challenge participants to stand for what they believe in school, church, and their community. By combining seminars and practical applications, the program will test what they believe, why they believe, and what to do with their beliefs!

The first two weeks of the conference will be held at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, and the final week at the National Youth Conference in Louisville. Participants will be involved in Bible studies, current events forums, leadership training, team activities, servanthood exercises, and training for their involvement during the Youth Conference.

This year's 72 teens are from 19 states. Those from Missouri are:

Jerrold Pilgrim, St. Peters, MO  
Deja Campbell, Monett, MO  
Genifer Campbell, Cuba, MO  
Carla Huff, Republic, MO  
Jennifer Koester, Flat River, MO  
Selenas Simpson, Hartville, MO

## 419 Attend Welcome Days

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE -- Free Will Baptist Bible College hosted a record 419 prospective students and their sponsors who attended the school's spring Welcome Days, April 1-3, according to Neil Gilliland, Recruitment Director.

Visitors from 118 churches in 20 states registered for the event. The previous attendance record of 389 was set last year. The 118 churches represented were 22 more than the previous record.

The largest state representations were 74 from Illinois, 40 from Alabama, and 37 from North Carolina. The 19 who came all the way from Colorado, four from Nebraska and another four from South Dakota also deserve recognition.

"It was a marvelous time on our campus," says Mr. Gilliland. "God is moving in a mighty way at FWBBC."

Special activities included a service by the College Choir and Evangel Players on Tuesday night. A number of decisions capped off this service. A North vs. South basketball game and closing time of testimony and rededication were held Friday night.

By states, the following numbers registered:

Alabama	40	Kentucky	30	Oklahoma	4
Arkansas	4	Michigan	24	S. Carolina	28
Colorado	19	Mississippi	14	S. Dakota	4
Florida	2	Missouri	4	Tennessee	30
Georgia	33	N. Carolina	37	Texas	6
Illinois	74	Nebraska	4	Virginia	26
Indiana	20	Ohio	16		

Two Welcome Days will be held during the 1993-94 school year: November 18-20, 1993, and March 31-April 2, 1994. Plan to bring a group from your church or church school.

## !! Attend Bible College In Missouri !!

We are happy to announce a new **Monitored External Studies** program being offered in the State of Missouri. This program will be conducted with the oversight of the Christian Education Board of Missouri Free Will Baptists, in association with Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College. The primary objective is to provide a continuing program of college level study in Biblical and Practical Theology, helping to equip and prepare pastors, ministerial students, and Christian lay people for service through the local church, to those who are unable to move to a regular college setting.

Students will be encouraged to enroll in the program courses for college credit, with the options of completing a (30 semester hour) Bible Certificate, or a (60 semester hour) Associate degree. Students will have the option of enrolling in the program on an auditing basis with no college credit, but will receive a Certificate from the Christian Education Board upon completion of the (30 hour) program.

Classes will be held in both the **fall** and **spring**. The fall semester will begin September 7, 1993, in **Cuba, Missouri**. The location of the majority of students will primarily determine the site of instruction from semester to semester.

Two classes will be offered each semester, meeting one night per week, with each class lasting approximately one hour and 15 minutes. Classes will be arranged so that students may take both classes on the same night. These classes will meet for 13 weeks each semester.

Courses being offered during the **Fall Semester 1993**:

Literacy Study of the English Bible I (Old Testament Survey) (En 1513), an over-all view of the structure, contents, history, peoples, and teachings of the Old Testament. This is a 3 semester hour course...\$120.00 for college credit...and \$60.00 for auditing students.

Life of Christ (Bi 2313), a survey of the basic events in the life and ministry of Christ based upon the four Gospels. This also is a 3 semester hour course, and tuition for it is \$120.00 for college credit...and \$60.00 for auditing students.

All students who wish to take courses for college credit must complete an application form provided through Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, and should make financial arrangements through the college. All *auditing* students can enroll directly through the Christian Education Board, and should send their tuition to the CE Board.

To begin your application and enrollment into the **Monitored External Studies** program, contact one of the following:

Jay Tilson, Chairman of the CE Board  
Route 1, Box 80  
Lonedell, MO 63060 (314) 629-0213

Rick Dablemont  
405 S. Phillips  
Cuba, MO 65453 (314) 885-3543

Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College  
Department of External Studies  
P.O. Box 7208  
Moore, OK 73153-1208

# Application and Enrollment Form

## External Studies Department Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(last) (first) (middle)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

SS Number \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Marital Status \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Children \_\_\_\_\_

Church Membership \_\_\_\_\_

Area of Service in the Church \_\_\_\_\_

High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Colleges Attended \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Hours Earned \_\_\_\_\_ Degrees Completed \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Christian Life \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the courses which you wish to take:

1. Course Number \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Tuition \_\_\_\_\_

Workbook \_\_\_\_\_ Text \_\_\_\_\_ or Text Rental \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost \_\_\_\_\_

2. Course Number \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Tuition \_\_\_\_\_

Workbook \_\_\_\_\_ Text \_\_\_\_\_ or Text Rental \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost of Courses Listed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Matriculation Fee (New students only) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to pay the entire amount at enrollment, please enclose your payment for the above amount with this application. If you wish to use the Time Payment Plan, please fill out the Time Payment Contract and send in this application with your down payment.

Mail to: Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College  
Department of External Studies  
P.O. Box 7208  
Moore, Oklahoma 73153-1208

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



## HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE

### Department of External Studies

Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College is pleased to make available to its External Studies students a time payment plan which will allow them to spread out the cost of their courses over a longer period of time.

If you would like to share in this program, this is the way it will operate. The matriculation fee (\$10.00 new students only) and at least 60% of the tuition must be paid at the time of enrollment. The remaining 40% or less of the tuition may be paid in monthly payments to be arranged to suit the student's budget. The amount due must be paid in full before credit can be given for the course. Even if the student does not complete the course, he is still obligated to pay the entire cost of the course(s) for which he enrolled. All cost of course materials must be paid at enrollment.

If you would like to make use of this time payment tuition plan in your enrollment, please fill out the contract printed below and return it with your application and down payment.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, wish to enroll in the courses listed on the application. I am enclosing the matriculation fee (\$10.00 new students only) if required, the cost of the course materials, and a down payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ which is at least 60% of the tuition cost. I promise to pay the remaining \$\_\_\_\_\_ as I take the course(s). I understand that I cannot receive credit for them until this amount is paid in full. I also understand that I am obligated to pay the full amount due even if I do not complete the course(s).

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Young Men Shouted While The Old Men Wept

Ezra 3:11-13

*This sermon was preached by the REV. DARRELL STRAIN at the Cave Springs Association Quarterly Meeting held at Bailey Church near Alton, MO, on April 3, 1993.*

The foundation of the temple has just been laid. After seventy years of captivity in a foreign land - Babylon - the temple is being rebuilt. The foundation is finished. The priests stand in their apparel with trumpets and cymbals to praise the Lord. The people are so moved that the young men shout with a great noise. However, there are some present who had seen the old temple in all its glory before it was destroyed. In contrast, when these old men saw the foundation of the new temple completed, they wept with a loud voice.

Why? At a time when joy should prevail, why would the old men weep? I suggest that memories of the past flooded their souls. They remembered how it once was in Jerusalem. They remembered the beauty of the former temple, and they also remembered its destruction. They recalled the anger of a Holy God toward Israel. They remembered how far Israel had strayed and the great cost they paid for it. They remembered the punishment that God allowed them to suffer. They remembered how they lost the great blessing of God.

These younger men who were present had no memory of the past battles fought and no recollection of the former building. They shouted because of the present conditions. The old men wept because they remembered the former and they remembered how they had lost the right path. They recalled the seventy years of God's judgment, and remembering, they were moved to agonizing tears.

Likewise there are some things that a younger generation is shouting about in this country today that have the old men weeping. I'm worried about our country. I'm not trying to scold, I'm crying out for help to turn this country around.

There are some men in this country who know what it is like to wear battle scars for contending for the right and standing for Bible fundamentals. The men who wear the scars are weeping over some of the things the younger generation is

shouting about. We have places in this great country that have laws forbidding street preaching and door to door visitation and soul winning. Some shout that these rules preserve their privacy, while others weep that so many perish without the knowledge of Christ.

There are certain circles that rejoice that there is such a spirit of cooperation among the churches of our land; a spirit of cooperation that crosses fundamental and modernist lines. The young men shout and the old men weep at the compromise that brought this spirit of cooperation about. The old men remember the day when man would rather die than compromise the Word of God. They remember that God said, "...come ye out from among them and be ye separate."

The young men shout that there is a great broad-minded approach to church and religious duty today. The old men cry and plead with God for a return to the old paths. I recently told my church that I would resign the first time they told me to join the Ministerial Alliance. I told them that when it comes time for the Thanksgiving ministerial service, I would not allow a modernist to grace the pulpit God called me to fill. I'm worried about a spirit of compromise in this country that will lay aside duty in the name of cooperation!

I'm worried about a country that will elect a man for President who said during his election campaign, "Elect me and I'll favor abortion on demand and use tax dollars to fund said abortion...Elect me and I'll promote the homosexual agenda." When people can be convinced that their pocket book is more important than Biblical principles, I'm worried about that country!

I'm worried when Bible standards are slandered on television and in the press. I'm worried when I read the great number of Letters to the Editor which slander the Scripture and slander moral character.

I'm especially worried about compromise in the matter of salvation. The young men are shouting about the large numbers "making decisions," while the old men weep and remember a time when people were converted and their lives changed forever. The young men rejoice over those who come forward, and the old men weep over those who come forward and never come back again.

I don't know if it's worse now than it was twenty years ago,

(continued on page 6)



or if I'm just getting older, but I've never seen such a time when people were so undisciplined; when people have so little control over their emotions that they forget about the matter of separated living. The young men rejoice at the great liberty found in Christ while the old men weep when they see the compromised lifestyles. The young men shout at the prospects of the Gospel being presented by the Hollywood crowd while the old men weep at the great damage done by the Hollywood lifestyles.

The young men jump with glee when they see young people being pulled into the so-called "Christian Rock Movement." They say, "Oh, what a great way to get the Gospel out!" The old men weep over those caught up in the rock culture; a movement that provides no such thing as deliverance from bondage. The old men weep and cry aloud because they remember that God has said he wants a peculiar people who are not friends with this world!

I'm worried that we may have lost our spiritual perception and are now willing to embrace almost anything as long as it has some resemblance to spirituality. If we exercised our perception, a number of religious programs would not have funds to operate. I was criticized when I spoke out against the PTL program. I'm worried now that we may have lost our way in America through undisciplined living. The young men shout praises of a society that is broad-minded enough to accept a person no matter what they do or how they live. They bring these same ideas with them into the church. The old men weep and cry aloud because of the loose living that is now an accepted practice. The old men see the children and grandchildren of this land caught up in sinful practices. They see the sons and daughters and cry aloud in agony at the prospect of a culture that sees nothing wrong with living together before marriage; a culture that accepts homosexual practices as normal; a society that accepts abortion as a method of birth control; a society that acts as though God never talked about discipline.

I'm worried when the media portrays Christians as mean spirited, narrow minded, bigoted nuts waving around an AK 47. Then the same media presents homosexuals as normal. The younger generation shouts legalist at those who demand standards based upon the Bible. They shout that they are free to do as they wish and that no one should judge them in that regard; that the church has no business in the matter of discipline. The old men weep and remember a time when the erring ones were brought before the deacon board and pastor in an effort to help them get their lives straightened out. They remember when the church was expected to take this kind of action. Discipline, they remember, is a Bible term, close to the word disciple. I'm worried about a country that knows nothing of church discipline and church authority!

The young men shout and praise God that God is their master and that they do not need to obey church authority. They rebel at the idea that God has appointed the pastor over the church. Instead, they want to tell the pastor how to get on with the work. They do not believe that God tells the pastor when He has something for the church. They undermine the authority of the pastor in the name of liberty and rejoice that they are able to do so. The old men weep and remember when the pastor was the authority, anointed of God to lead the church. They remember when God supplied the pastor to the church and supplied the pastor with wisdom to lead the church. They remember when the congregation backed the pastor and looked to his leadership because they knew he had spent long hours on his knees finding the Will of God.

I'm worried that we can sing "Just a Little Talk With Jesus" and then ignore the Bible command to pray without ceasing. The old men remember when we had all night prayer meetings that brought the power of God down upon the services. The young men sing songs with the jungle beat of the tavern and music so loud you can't hear the words, while we need the songs that will bring the dew of heaven down upon the services. Yes, the young men sing songs empty of the power of God while the old men sing, "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes" and "How Firm a Foundation"!

## New Missouri State Home Mission Work!

The Missouri State Home Mission Board would like to announce the appointment of a new missionary couple to Ozark, Missouri. The Rev. Gary Mitchener along with his wife, Brenda, and their children, Christi, 13, David, 11, and Rebecca, 6, will begin their new work in May. Their goal is to establish a strong Bible-believing, soul winning, Free Will Baptist Church in the Ozark-Nixa area just south of Springfield. This area is experiencing tremendous growth with many souls ready for harvest.

The Mitcheners have responded to God's call to service in this growing community. They desire to establish a self-supporting church whose main focus will be on people and their needs along with a strong emphasis on promoting and supporting Missouri State Missions and the Missouri Cooperative Program as well as National Ministries.

Brother Gary was saved as a teen and answered the call to preach at age twenty. In his nineteen year ministry, he has pastored in Missouri, Arkansas and Kansas. The Lord has given him a burden for missions as well as local, state and national ministries. Sister Brenda is a faithful and willing worker for the Lord. She teaches Sunday School and is active in Woman's Auxiliary. Her loving support will be a tremendous asset in this new endeavor for the Lord.

This fine family is excited about the new work God has called them to, although they will miss their church family of the past four years -- the Rock Chapel Free Will Baptist Church of Norwood.

Please pray for the Mitcheners as they begin this new work. Offerings for their financial support may be made through your local church. Simply designate the contribution to the Gary Mitchener or Ozark Account. Or you may send funds directly to: Rev. Dale Skiles, 4543 McCullough, Springfield, MO 65804.

If you know of individuals or families who would be prospects for this new work, please write to the above address.



Gary & Brenda Mitchener





## Wentzville Mission Celebrates Seven Years

*by Pastor Jim Mertz*

On March 2, 1986, the very first Sunday service was held for the new Wentzville mission, the Crossroads Free Will Baptist Church. With great joy and gratitude, the Wentzville Mission celebrated its 7th anniversary on March 28, 1993. That first service took place at the Sheraton Motel of Wentzville. Six months later five acres of choice Interstate 70 property was purchased, which had an existing house. For the next 5 years that very house became the sanctuary and classrooms of our church.

In March of 1990, ground was broken for the new church building and after nearly 1 1/2 years, the building was completed with most of the work being done by our own men. The church was then dedicated to the glory of God in April of 1992.

Some of the special memories through these years include: the building of our 300 square feet highway billboard church sign, Project Gideon which helped to build our church, the gift of a cornerstone from Jerusalem, and the contribution of the beautiful Prayer Garden. Indeed, time and space would not allow us to relate the untold blessings and precious memories we have shared along the way.

Our Anniversary Day was a uniquely blessed day. There were 140 in worship attendance. We shared testimonies, enjoyed great singing from our people and finished the celebration with a delicious fellowship dinner complete with a giant birthday cake decorated as a big church.

As the founding Pastor, I recently took a glance back at our 7 years. I drove to the parking lot of the motel where we first started our church and as the Apostle Paul did in Acts 27..."thanked God and took courage." Tears began to flow down my cheeks as I reflected on the goodness of God and how many times God came through for us and for all the many people our church has touched. Then, I knelt right there in the parking lot and rededicated my all to the Lord to continue until the job is done and we have established a strong, growing, soul winning church to the glory of God.

It is difficult to express how needed and appreciated our many Crossroads friends have been to us. They have helped to make our church possible. The Wentzville mission has become a reality because of a vision of our State Home Mission Board and the countless people who have cared to give and pray and faithfully stand with us for these years.

It has not been easy, but God has not failed us. I have learned so much about our Lord and what faith in God can do. I thank God most of all that He gave me a precious, faithful wife, Rose, whose love and encouragement and many sacrifices have meant more to me than I can say. And I am

grateful for my two children, Angel and Matt, who have literally grown up in our mission and have done their part to help us build our church.

The Wentzville mission is now seven years old and still counting, but we all feel the best is yet to come.





# Springfield's First Free Will Baptist Church

## Beginnings In Springfield

In 1914 several congregational meetings were held in a building on Commercial Street east of National Boulevard. On August 23rd of that year, Springfield's first FWB Church was founded. Twenty-eight people led by Elders Lockin Jones, J.P. Highfill, and P.M. Phelps were duly constituted into a church. Shortly thereafter, church services were held in Kohler Hall, by the Frisco Rail Road tracks, near the same Commercial and National Streets location.

The small but dedicated congregation met every other Sunday for worship services with prayer meetings on Wednesday evenings. By 1915, the church body had grown to forty-four members with thirty-five enrolled in Sunday School. The church met at various locations for several years. I was unable to identify these locations earlier than 1946.

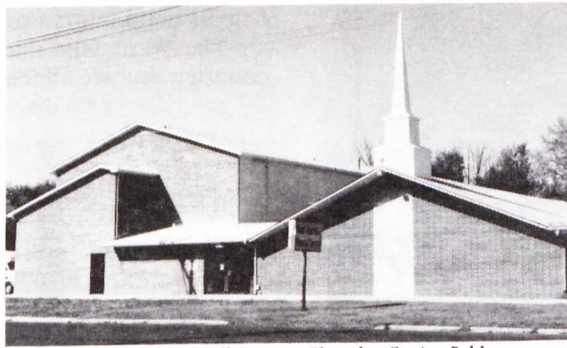
In 1946, Free Will Baptists in and around Springfield were worshipping in a small building known as Faith Mission, located near what is now 3001 West Division Street. Doctrines contradictory to the FWB covenant were beginning to creep into the church. This was becoming disturbing to some members.

Early in 1947 a FWB preacher, Reverend Bert Hall, a new resident in Springfield, was building houses in the vicinity of Ethel Street and Nichols Street Road. He met a man who lived in this neighborhood, Earl Agee. While visiting and witnessing for the Lord, they realized they shared a deep need for a place to worship and teach the FWB doctrine.

## Building the First Church

On April 14, 1947, several Christians met to organize a church. One week later, on April 22, the group chartered the First Free Will Baptist Church of Springfield, Missouri.

Charter members, according to records, were: Earl and Blossom Agee; John and Hattie Mace and two of their children, Donald and Maxine; Shelby Smith; Bert and Cynthia Hall and their son, Harry. Rev. Bert Hall was elected to pastor the new church. Several others attending that organizational meeting were: S.K. and Della Kensinger and their daughter, Virginia Kensinger-Baker; Elmer and Elizabeth Patton; and Maxine Smith. They declined membership until their entire family could be present. Eventually, all became members.



First Free Will Baptist Church - Springfield

Church services and Sunday School took place in houses in the area. As Brother Hall built and sold houses, the congregation would move to another. Finally, they determined to build a permanent church for regular worship. The chosen sight was the Northwest corner of Nichols and Ethel Streets.

Stone for the building was hauled from Ava, Missouri. After working their regular jobs, Pastor Hall and all the men of the church worked diligently throughout that summer. Brother Shelby Smith was perhaps the only one hired for construction of the building. It is believed he was paid fifty dollars a week for a six-day work week.

The building was ready for use in August 1947. A revival was planned. It was preached by a brother whose last name was Lewis. Several were saved during that revival, including Sister Evelyn Bagwell, a member of our church today. Brother Raymond Kensinger was another who accepted the Lord. He is currently a member of the Republic, Missouri, FWB Church. Troy Patton and Betty Agee were the first couple married in the church.

We thank God for Brother Hall and all who chartered not only a church for many of us to get to know the teachings of the Bible, but also for the opportunity to find salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In 1949, Brother Hall went to a church in Aurora, Missouri. He went home to be with his Savior in the late 1980s.

## Growth and Expansion

Reverend Henry Long was elected pastor of the church in June of 1949. The church was blessed by the Lord and saw many changes during his ministry. As the congregation grew, the original auditorium was enlarged and a new kitchen and dining hall were added.

As the congregation grew, a larger building was needed. On February 12,

1973, Brother Long preached the first sermon in the newly completed sanctuary, which we enjoy today.

The first wedding in the new sanctuary was the marriage of Fred Brown and Joyce Collier on February 17, 1973. Brother Long served as pastor until 1976, resigning on the advice of his doctor. He continued to serve the Lord, comforting those with different needs until shortly before God called him home on October 18, 1984.

Rev. Mike Hutsell was elected pastor in July of 1976. Brother Mike was a great help with the music and, for awhile, had a radio program. The busy ministry was started while he was at the church. Brother Walter Eyman was the first bus driver. Brother Mike left in 1980.

Rev. Steve Burton was elected pastor in 1980. Our newsletter, "The Shepherd's Way," was established during Brother Steve's leadership. Sister Margaret Bender was in charge of the newsletter. Brother Steve gave up the pastorate of the church in 1982.

In July of 1982, Rev. Dale Kester was elected pastor. Children's Church was started during Brother Dale's ministry. Brother Dane and Sister Debbie, and Brother Philip and Sister Carolyn Collier were the first Children's Church Directors. The church continued to grow under Brother Dale's ministry until he left in October 1987.

Rev. W.D. Bostic was Church Pastor from 1987 until the fall of 1988. Brother Bostic was a great singer, as was his late wife, Maxine.

## Present Day

In December 1988 Rev. Max Courtney was elected Pastor. A new educational building and fellowship hall with kitchen and nursery were dedicated in 1991. Also the bus garage with storage space has been renovated. Perhaps our greatest blessing (other than seeing people saved) has been getting our Associate Pastor Keith Garrison. Brother Keith was ordained March 28, 1993. He is serving in many ministries of the church. Brother Max has also started a tape ministry for the home bound.

We thank God for each and every one that has helped make the First Free Will Baptist Church of Springfield, Missouri, what it stands for today: God the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

*This information was researched and gathered by Sister Alyene Collier.*



## What's Working For The Mountain Grove Children's Church

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Mtn. Grove has an active Children's Church program under the leadership of Jeanette Dalton and Anita Taylor. Sunday mornings an average of 23 youngsters ages 6 through 12 gather for a worship service of songs, Scripture memorization and Bible lessons. The lessons are presented by flannel figures or flashcards and relate Bible truths to the child's daily walk. A number of decisions for Christ have been made. Offerings have been used to assist Vergel Maness, home missionary in New Jersey; the Don McDonalds in Japan; and presently they are giving to the Ron Moores.

Coupons are given as an incentive for Bible verse memorization. The children may exchange these coupons for hand made items such as stuffed toys, puppets, or paintings. Other projects have been used to stimulate interest and attendance. During the "Auction Bucks" project children received "auction bucks" for attendance, memorization and bringing new children. Then, after about 12 weeks, they used their "auction bucks" at an auction party similar to a real auction. This proved to be a very successful program.

Last fall a musical Christmas program was developed and presented with 34 youngsters participating. Each year they also have a caroling party and go to the homes of our older members and a local nursing home and sing carols.

This year, in an effort to bring joy to some of our older and shut-in members and help the children develop a caring attitude for others, they visit an older member once each month and present a half hour program of songs, Scripture and a Bible Skit. They also take cookies and fruit for the person visited. After the visit, the children return to the church for a fellowship and to honor a mother of the month. The following pictures show the group at two of the homes recently visited.



In February the Children's Church visited Hardy Ireland. Hardy is 97 years old and still living alone in his home. Failing eyesight and health prevent him from getting out to church services.



In March the children visited Sylvia Sanders. Sylvia is another dear church member who has health problems. The children were clowns this month and sang choruses and presented "Fishers of Men."



Right to left: Rev. Bruce and Dede Moore, Rev. Zackery and Tammie Williams, Rev. Gene and Donna Terry, and Rev. Jim and Gloria Ragsdale.

## Seymour Church Burns The Mortgage

March was victory month for the Seymour Free Will Baptist Church. The last property payment was made and a special Mortgage Burning service was held on March 28 at 2:00 p.m.

This exciting service was opened with congregational singing led by Rev. Bruce Moore. Rev. Jewell Craig led in prayer. Rev. Bruce and Dede Moore then presented a special song. A

former pastor, Rev. Zackery Williams, spoke to the church about banning together in love and unity. Former pastor, Rev. Bruce Moore, then spoke to the church about being freed from bondage and able to sing the songs of Zion again. Another former pastor, Rev. Gene Terry, brought an inspiring and challenging message from I Cor. 8:15.

Following these messages, Pastor Jim Ragsdale gave church members the honor of burning the mortgage. Participating were Brother Mike and Sister Jane Dinwittie, Brother Mittcheall and Sister Terry Plummer, Brother Tom and Sister Pearl Willbanks, Sister Virginia Marler, Rev. Earnie and Sister Faith Holiday. Sister Cummins and Sister Duckworth burned a piece of the mortgage in memory of Brother and Sister Wingo.

Serving as deacons at the Seymour Free Will Baptist Church are Brother Mike Dinwittie and Brother Mittcheall Plummer. The church extends its thanks to all those who attended this special occasion. Among those helping celebrate were the following ministers: Rev. Jewell Craig, Rev. Lyle Wright, Rev. Earnie Holiday, Rev. Gene Terry, Rev. Zackery Williams, Rev. Bruce Moore, Rev. Bob Simmons and Rev. Jim Ragsdale.

This fine congregation praises God for what He has done for the Seymour Free Will Baptist Church. They look forward with anticipation to His continued blessings and guidance under the leadership of their pastor, Rev. Jim Ragsdale.



## Sunday School Attendance Averages October 1992-March 1993

CHURCHES	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR
Belton	53	49	54	56	70	72
Calvary Fellowship	229	250	246	258	356	284
Cape Girardeau		91	86	98	96	99
Central	85				86	
Cuba	106	113	110	118	128	118
DeSoto	180	193	178	181	189	179
Farmington	294	300	258	299	369	321
Flat River, First	135	146	116	144	151	
Hannon	80	76	83	86	78	77
Harmony	74	70	64	80	88	
Hartville	110	97	109	100	116	107
Hopewell	33	31	25	36	38	
Houston	62	61	63	67	59	55
Jones Creek	22	22	24	17	24	21
Kirksville	32	32				
Lebanon, First	99	104	96	104	104	106
Marshfield	27	28	30	28	30	
Monett	123	123	119	127		
Myrtle		30	25			
Parkview	57	54	53	51	60	55
Richwoods	51	46				
Rock Chapel	64	67	65	73	66	68
Springfield, First	117	118	112	114	137	123
Thayer	125	115	127		143	124
United, West Plains	168	165	188		197	196
Unity	39	36	35	41	40	40
Verdella	59	69	62	70	70	72
Victory			63	73	79	
Waynesville			48	41	47	
Willow Springs	65	57		59		

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 average each month.

## Spring Enlargement Campaign Results

Two Missouri churches took first place in their division of the Sunday School Spring Enlargement Campaign sponsored by Randall House. Several other churches did well even though they did not finish first or second. All the churches are to be congratulated on a job well done.

### Division C - 1st Place

First Free Will Baptist Church  
Farmington, Missouri  
Rev. Roger Hogan, Pastor

### Division D - 1st Place

Calvary Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church  
Fenton, Missouri  
Rev. Jerry Norris, Pastor

## TOP TEN CHURCHES ACCORDING TO NUMERICAL INCREASE

1. First FWB Church	Bakersfield, CA	135
2. Northside FWB Church	Tulsa, OK	135
3. Landmark FWB Church	Sperry, OK	109
4. Calvary Fellowship FWB Ch.	Fenton, MO	99
5. Highpoint FWB Church	Lancaster, SC	95
6. Fairfield FWB Church	Fairfield, CA	94
7. First FWB Church	Ypsilanti, MI	69
8. First FWB Church	Farmington, MO	57
9. Chesnee FWB Church	Chesnee, SC	55
10. Oxnard FWB Church	Oxnard, CA	47
New Sulphur FWB Church	Prairie Grove, AR	47

## Reverend Joe Braddy Charitable Trust

My father, Reverend Joe Braddy, age 52, passed away recently as a result of an automobile accident. He loved the Free Will Baptist denomination and devoted thirty years of his life to ministering and educating individuals in the ways of the Lord. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. Education of FWB young people was very important to him. With this in mind, The Reverend Joe Braddy Charitable Trust has been established in his memory. This charitable trust will be ongoing and will be used for the sole purpose of administering scholarships to Free Will Baptist students. Initially, four scholarships will be awarded, one each to: (1) Hillsdale FWB College - Moore, OK; (2) FWB Bible College - Nashville, TN; (3) California Christian College - Fresno, CA. A fourth scholarship will be awarded only to a child of a Free Will Baptist minister (to the Free Will Baptist colleges listed above of their choice).

Scholarships will be based on academics and financial need. To receive an application and guidelines, please mail your request to:

The Reverend Joe Braddy Charitable Trust  
c/o Pamela Hedgpeth, Trustee  
1201 Fredrick  
Mountain Grove, MO 65711

As mentioned, this is a charitable trust. Contributions are tax deductible. All contributions will be used for the education of Free Will Baptists. If you wish to contribute, please make your checks payable to: The Reverend Joe Braddy Charitable Trust. Send to the same address listed above.

Yours In Christ,  
Pamela Hedgpeth, Trustee

## Financial Information

### APRIL 1993

#### COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

18.50% Mo. State Home Missions Board	6,560.57
17.50% Exec. Off. & Gem	6,205.94
3.50% General Fund	1,241.19
8.50% Youth Camp Bd.	3,014.32
2.50% Youth Ministries Bd.	886.56
2.50% C.E. Board	886.56

2.50% Sr. Adult Ministries Board	886.56
9.00% Mo. State Retirement Program	3,191.63
30.50% Nat'l. Ministries, Hillsdale & Calif. Christian College	10,816.08
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	
(108.16 included in \$10,816.08)	
5% Mo. State Conference Center Fund	\$1,773.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$35,462.54</b>

blessed with another good month and He is to be praised. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, in whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17

"We thank God for the Pastors and Churches that consistently give in order to help carry out the Great Commission." Souls are being saved and saints are being edified to the praise and glory of God. God has

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



## APRIL 1993 RECEIPTS

### COOPERATIVE

South Fremont	\$ 500.00
Mt. Zion, Gower	29.20
Union Light	263.25
Houston 1st	340.00
Mill Creek	219.57
Union Grove	152.66
New Harmony	24.67
Kingsway	393.41
Bailey Chapel, Tunas	75.00
Friendship	251.15
Number One	40.69
Myrtle	141.71
Calvary Chapel	264.85
Lone Star	46.86
Stockton	102.90
Rolla	92.22
Hannon	418.25
North Five	113.62
Thayer	651.00
New Hope, Fredericktown	20.00
Madison Co. Quarterly	25.00
O'Fallon 1st	249.11
Eastern Gate	384.75
Fellowship	400.00
Overland	137.00
Merl's Chapel	198.00
Royal Oak	139.00
Victory	205.95
Oak Hill, Fredericktown	78.05
Monett 1st	505.68
Central	758.48
Niangua	21.00
Niangua	11.00
Springfield 1st	801.79
Rock Chapel	396.05
Lebanon 1st	558.68
Freeman Chapel	236.91
Smyrna	555.00
Jones Chapel	236.39
Jones Chapel	256.25
Harmony	435.00
Heritage	110.00
Verdella	214.05
Columbia	75.00
Belton	427.93
Faith, Oak Grove	93.00
Pleasant Ridge, Goodson	109.00
Macedonia	48.54
Leadington	305.58
Liberty	226.00
Monett	132.10
Mt. Pisgah	232.00
Cope	50.00
South Fremont	400.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	1,027.61
Pleasant Home, Mtn. Grove	153.75
Mine La Motte	47.68
Unity, Lebanon	267.00
Lingo, Doniphan	18.74
Parkview	330.45
DeSoto	880.00
Hurricane, Flat River	336.26
Greenfield	216.00
Richwoods 1st	440.00
West Plains 1st	447.86
Koshkonong	155.90
Alton	225.00
Flat River 1st	463.53
United, W.P.	789.08
Victory, Alton	169.00
Hopewell	116.00
Fordland	185.06
Neosho 1st	213.75
Oak Hill, Union	354.45
Copper Mines	206.60
Wilderness	407.00
Trinity	940.92
Jones Creek	291.64
Bethel, El Dorado Springs	53.18
Crossroads, Wentzville	300.00
Marshfield	214.11
Fredericktown 1st	370.00
Byrd	76.90
Potosi 1st	120.55
Niangua	13.00
Cabool	266.81
Scott City	587.00
Terrill Road	226.00
Grace	1,054.00
Seymour	71.00
Waynesville 1st	550.58
Black Oak	183.83
Carthage	185.00
Niangua	13.00

Willow Springs, Mtn. Grove	229.49
Grant Avenue	948.08
Verdella	216.72
Pleasant Hill	41.64
Cuba	394.84
Wolf Creek	398.35
Hannibal	70.00
Cape Girardeau 1st	667.97
Number One	53.85
Clifton S.S.	78.19
New Rock Springs	100.00
Koshkonong	98.00
Faith & Hope, Aurora	125.00
Myrtle	130.61
Thayer	602.00
Central	609.29
Monett 1st	946.13
Farmington 1st	2,018.73
Hartville	462.08
Houston	331.00
O'Fallon	242.29
Friendship	263.90
Kirkville	254.59
New Harmony	17.75
Mt. Zion	40.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$35,462.54</b>

### STATE HOME MISSIONS

L. Wormington	\$ 30.00
Myrtle	43.00
Faith & Hope, Willow Springs	15.14
Hannon	225.90
Thayer	40.00
O'Fallon 1st	42.00
Eastern Gate	20.00
Richwoods	10.00
Victory	30.00
Central	10.00
Rock Chapel	124.80
Lebanon 1st	55.00
Leadington	10.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	27.00
DeSoto	60.00
DeSoto Children's Church	20.00
Lebanon Bible & Book	174.00
West Plains 1st	5.00
Fordland	2.00
New Testament	86.00
Oak Hill, Union	19.00
Trinity	45.00
Marshfield	21.41
Union Light	61.00
Grace	30.00
Grant Avenue	123.81
Cuba Woman's Auxiliary	122.87
Cuba	90.52
Faith & Hope, Aurora	60.90
Myrtle	48.00
Thayer	40.00
Central	10.00
Farmington 1st	76.66
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,779.01</b>

### NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

New Harmony	\$ 123.40
Blue Springs	20.00
Myrtle	75.00
Faith & Hope, Willow Springs	35.00
Hannon	15.00
Thayer	195.00
O'Fallon 1st	48.50
Beacon	107.00
Overland	4.00
Richwoods	45.00
Victory	55.00
Monett 1st	30.00
Central	133.50
Rock Chapel	45.00
Lebanon 1st	5.00
Verdella	15.00
Columbia	45.00
Pleasant Ridge, Goodson	25.00
Bethel, Festus	40.00
Leadington	15.00
Mt. Pisgah	50.00
South Fremont	2.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	245.00
Pleasant Home, Mtn. Grove	10.00
Parkview	85.20
DeSoto	280.00
West Plains 1st	30.00
Flat River 1st	51.35
United, W.P.	10.00
Fordland	13.00
New Testament	312.00
Oak Hill, Union	28.00
Trinity	44.00

Union Light	35.00
Buffalo 1st	50.00
Grace	136.15
Waynesville 1st	25.00
J. Rader	20.00
Carthage	54.00
Oak Grove, Norwood	55.56
Grant Avenue	41.00
Verdella	15.00
Wolf Creek	34.73
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
Myrtle	75.00
Thayer	190.00
Central	136.00
Monett 1st	30.00
Farmington 1st	13.00
Blue Springs	20.00
O'Fallon	45.00
Kirkville	38.50
New Harmony	88.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,349.67</b>

### FOREIGN MISSIONS

New Harmony	\$ 123.40
Blue Springs	65.00
Myrtle	106.00
Faith & Hope, Willow Springs	115.00
Hannon	573.25
C. Thompson	25.00
Thayer	235.00
O'Fallon 1st	48.50
Beacon	277.00
Eastern Gate	136.95
Merl's Chapel	200.00
Richwoods	27.00
D. Akeman	10.00
Victory	170.00
Monett 1st	557.00
Central	265.00
F. Green	35.00
Houston 1st	133.00
Calvary Chapel	150.00
Rock Chapel	174.22
Lebanon 1st	95.00
Freeman Chapel	349.00
Verdella	615.40
Columbia	15.00
Belton	50.00
S. Hart	20.00
Pleasant Ridge, Goodson	45.00
Bethel, Festus	131.50
Leadington	35.00
Mt. Pisgah	100.00
South Fremont	40.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	328.00
Pleasant Home, Mtn. Grove	75.18
Parkview	323.73
DeSoto	405.00
DeSoto Joy Makers	325.00
Greenfield	125.00
West Plains 1st	25.00
Faith, St. Louis	75.00
Flat River 1st	185.40
United, W.P.	20.00
Oak Grove, Cabool	65.00
Fordland	133.00
Neosho 1st	618.00
New Testament	289.00
Oak Hill, Union	30.50
Trinity	514.32
Union Mission	109.80
Marshfield	60.00
Union Light	160.00
Grace	28.00
Waynesville 1st	25.00
Carthage	67.00
Calvary Chapel	82.00
Oak Grove, Norwood	111.12
New Harmony, Greentop	110.00
Grant Avenue	548.33
Verdella	508.96
Cuba	45.27
North Five	101.84
Parkview Mission Group	60.00
C. Layman	20.00
Calvary Fellowship	726.66
Houston 1st	157.00
Faith & Hope, Aurora	60.91
Greenfield	122.00
Myrtle	100.00
Thayer	135.00
Central	205.00
Monett 1st	1,366.78
Farmington 1st	663.33
Blue Springs	70.00
Hartville	92.42
O'Fallon	58.00

Kirkville	110.00
Kirkville Children's Church	21.85
Hannon	88.77
New Harmony	88.77
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,474.39</b>

### MISSOURI FWB YOUTH CAMP

Myrtle	\$ 33.00
Hannon	15.00
Thayer	35.00
Leadington	100.00
Mt. Pisgah	10.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	10.00
Lebanon Bible & Book	78.00
DeSoto 1st	50.00
Cabool	132.74
Flat River 1st	25.58
Parkview, Desloge	250.00
Trinity	14.00
Buffalo 1st	50.00
Willow Springs, Mtn. Grove	10.00
Tyrone, Elk Creek	300.00
Parkview Missions Group	10.00
Calvary Fellowship	25.00
New Rock Springs, Cabool	10.00
Myrtle	38.00
Thayer	35.00
Monett	120.00
Hartville	10.00
Marshfield	66.25
New Testament, Neosho	100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,527.57</b>

### HILLSDALE FWB COLLEGE

Hannon	\$ 50.00
Thayer	40.00
Victory, K.C.	55.60
Central, Grandview	36.00
Eastern Gate	76.95
Oak Hill, Union	50.00
Grant Avenue, Springfield	8.00
Thayer	40.00
Central, Grandview	36.00
Farmington 1st	10.00
Farmington 1st	141.66
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$544.21</b>

### FWB BIBLE COLLEGE

Thayer	\$ 35.00
DeSoto 1st	35.00
Parkview, Desloge	
(Missions Group)	10.00
Thayer	35.00
Farmington 1st	133.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$248.33</b>

### REV. JOHN McCLURE

Thayer	\$ 13.00
Monett	5.00
Verdella	10.00
Grace, Arnold	50.00
Verdella	10.00
Thayer	10.00
Monett	5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$103.00</b>

### FWB HOME FOR CHILDREN (TN)

DeSoto 1st	\$50.00
Parkview, Desloge	
(Missions Group)	10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>

### FWB CHILDREN'S HOME (AL)

Myrtle	\$7.00
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### CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Farmington	\$25.00
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## 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. 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. Please do not hesitate to call, write, or come by for any help that is needed.

**MO. STATE ASSOC. OF  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**  
202 West Commercial  
Lebanon, Missouri 65536

FWB Bible College  
Library & Faculty  
3606 West End Ave.  
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**FDO '93**

**Father's Day Offering  
Honoring Our Founding Fathers  
June 20, 1993**

BECAUSE YOU CARE AND GIVE  
our pastors, ministers, missionaries and church  
lay employees can look forward to having their  
needs met in their older years.

Mail your gift to:



Board of Retirement  
National Association of Free Will Baptists  
P.O. Box 5002 • Antioch, Tennessee 37011-5002  
615-731-6812

**Available  
For  
Pulpit Supply**

Gary Junge, a member of the Rock Chapel Free Will Baptist Church of Norwood, Missouri, was recently licensed to preach and is available for pulpit supply. He may be reached by phone at: (417) 741-6613.

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