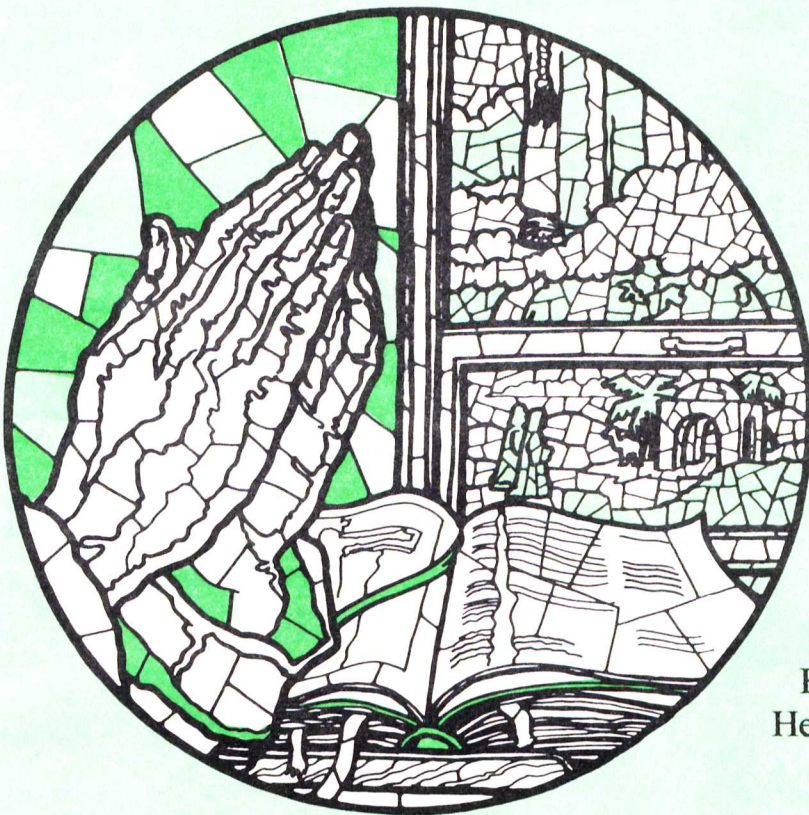


GEM

THE
FREE WILL BAPTIST

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JUNE 1994
Volume 64 Number 6

A Father's Prayer

Dear God, my little boy of three
Has said his nightly prayer to Thee;
Before his eyes were closed in sleep,
He asked that Thou his soul would keep,
And I, still kneeling at his bed,
My hand upon his tousled head,
Do ask, with deep humility,
That Thou, dear Lord, remember me.
Make me, kind Lord, a worthy Dad,
That I may lead this little lad
In pathways ever fair and bright.
That I may keep his steps aright.
O God, his trust may never be
Destroyed or even marred by me.
So, for the simple things he prayed
With childish voice so unafraid,
I trembling, ask the same from Thee.
Dear Lord, Kind Lord, remember me.

Information Concerning The 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.

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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.

Free Will Baptists

"What They Are and Where They Came From"

by Rev. Ken Dodson

At the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, men were already starting to rebel against Luther's teachings on the predestination of the elect. One such man (once a colleague and friend of Luther) was Melancthon. In 1532, he published a book on Romans that stated that "not all obtain the benefits of redemption through Christ, because many resist the Word. And it is manifest that to resist belongs to the human will, because God is not the cause of sin." In his *"Loci Communes"* (1535) he ascribes conversion to three causes: The Word, the Holy Spirit, and the human will.

This doctrine of "free-will" came under fierce attack by the followers of Luther and Calvin. The Calvinists were bitterly opposed to teachings about a general atonement by Christ for all men. Any teaching of "free-will" was announced as heresy. Calvin strongly proclaimed that only those predestined by God would be saved to become the elect.

In 1588, James Arminius began pastoring at one of the principal churches in Amsterdam. By this time, Arminius had become recognized as among the ablest and most learned men of his time. It is said that his expository sermons were to be lucid, eloquent, and well-delivered as to attract large audiences. He was called on from time to time to write against the opponents of Calvinism, which he did in a satisfactory way. The University of Leyden acquired Arminius as an instructor in 1602. Upon searching the depths of the scriptures, he found that he could not teach the Calvinist doctrine. Young ministers found themselves seeing the truth of the "general atonement" and the "free-will" of man, opposed to the teachings of Calvin. The authorities, upon finding these teachings of heresy, tried to force the professors at Leyden to fill out a questionnaire of nine points of Calvinism. They declined. Many pastors also refused to subscribe to the symbols. During these heated discussions with authorities, Arminius became ill and died in October 1609.

These five points still outline the basic beliefs and doctrines of the two Arminian (after James Arminius) Baptist denominations today (Free Will Baptists and General Baptists).

1. "That God, by an eternal and immutable decree in Jesus Christ His Son, before the world was founded, determined out of the fallen, sinful human race, to save in Christ for Christ's sake and through Christ those who, through the grace of the Holy Spirit, believe on this His Son Jesus shall persevere in this faith and obedience of faith, through this grace, even the end; and on the other hand, to leave the incorrigible and unbelieving in sin and under wrath, and to condemn them as alienates from Christ according to the word of the gospel in John 3:36."

2. "Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world, died for all men and for every man, so that he has obtained for them all, by his death on the cross, redemption and the forgiveness of sins; yet that no one actually enjoys this forgiveness of sin except the believer," (such as saving faith really is); but that it is needful that he be born again of God in Christ, through his Holy Spirit, and renewed in understanding, inclination, will and affect what is truly good."

3. "... declares that apostate sinful man can of by himself neither think, will, nor do anything that is truly good (such as saving faith really is); but that it is needful that he be born again of God in Christ, through his Holy Spirit, and renewed in

understanding, inclination, will and all his powers, in order that he may rightly understand, think, will and affect what is truly good."

4. "This grace of God is the beginning, continuance, and accomplishment of all good, even to the extent that the regenerate man himself, without prevent or assisting, awakening, following, and co-operative grace, can neither think, will, nor do good, nor withstand any temptations to evil; ... but as respects the mode of the operation of this grace, it is not irresistible."

5. "... that those who are incorporated into Christ by a true faith, and have thereby become partakers of his life-giving Spirit, have thereby full power to strive against Satan, sin, the world, and their own flesh, and to win the victory; it being well understood that it is ever through the assisting grace of the Holy Spirit; and that Jesus Christ assists them through his Spirit in all temptation, extends to them his hand, and if only they are ready for the conflict, and desire his help, and are not inactive, keeps from falling so that they, by no craft of power of Satan, can be misled or plucked out of Christ's hands."

Following "the Confession of 1611" (a declaration of the Arminian faith, doctrine, and practice) most of the church in Holland returned to England. At this time, they began to be called Arminian or General (general because they believed in the general atonement of Christ for all men rather than a particular atonement of Christ for only those who were elected to be saved) Baptists. Persecutions were suffered by the General Baptists because the Church of England was still the state religion. Despite the persecutions waged against them, they grew and continued to grow.

The rise of Free Will Baptists came from the influence of Baptists of Arminian persuasion who settled in the colonies from England. The denomination traces its beginning back to two fronts, one in the South under Paul Palmer and the other in the North by Benjamin Randall.

A Welsh church, organized in Wales in 1701, immigrated the same year to Pennsylvania. Two years later, it received a grant of land known as the "Welsh Tract" where the colony prospered and was able to send a number of able ministers to various sections. One of these, Elder Paul Palmer, gathered a company in North Carolina and, in 1727, organized a church at Perquimans, in Chowan County. The principal element was Arminian. A yearly meeting was formed among 16 sister churches in 1752 with 1,000 communicants. In the early part of their history, they do not appear to have had a distinctive name. They were afterwards called "Free Will Baptists" and most of them became known as "Original Free Will Baptists" but have since preferred to drop the name "Original."

The Northern movement took place under the leadership of Benjamin Randall. In 1779, Benjamin Randall of New Hampshire, who had been converted through Whitefield's preaching (1770) but had from Wesleyan Methodism derived his Arminian views, was arraigned for heresy and disfellowshipped by a Baptist council. The charges brought against him were the preaching of unlimited atonement and of the freedom of the will. He immediately gained a considerable following from the Regular Baptists of the New England States. Through his marked gifts of organization, he called

(continued on page 8)

Nettie Warrick Day at Kingsway

Oldest Member Honored at Special Event

by Annie Cobb



Nettie Warrick with Rev. Gene Terry & Mrs. Terry

Saturday, May 14, 1994, was Nettie Warrick Day at Kingsway Freewill Baptist Church in Springfield, Missouri. This was a special day set aside to honor and show appreciation to their oldest member. A luncheon, money tree, and card shower were part of the day's celebration to commemorate her 100th birthday.

One of four children, Nettie was born on May 12, 1894, to Marion and Sarah Byerley in West Plains, Missouri. When she was two years old, the family moved back to the family farm at Almartha, Missouri, where she grew up. On August 21, 1910, she married Jesse Warrick. They lived on a farm near Almartha for most of their early years. They lived short periods of time in Portland, Oregon, Miles City, Montana, St. John, Kansas, and Sumner, Washington. In 1946, they returned to Missouri, and Nettie has lived in Springfield since 1948.

Nettie and her husband raised ten children - five daughters and five sons: Beatrice Smith, Betty Butts, Mable Hicks, Joy Draper, and Monroe Warrick all of Springfield, Missouri; Beulah Aldrich of Spanaway, Washington; Calbert Warrick of Neptune, New Jersey; Glen Warrick of Auburn, Washington; Jess Warrick Jr. of Dillon, Montana; and Earnest Warrick of Chanute, Kansas. She has twenty-two grandchildren, twenty-six great-grandchildren, three step great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren. She has been a widow since 1972.

She has worked hard all her life and sacrificed to raise her large family, but she has always had time to help a neighbor, sit with a sick friend, or cook for anyone who might drop in to visit. Her home has been always open to the old and young alike, whom she has loved and given Christian guidance. Nettie and her husband were charter members of the East Side General Baptist Church in Springfield where she was a Sunday School teacher. She joined the Kingsway Freewill Baptist Church on November 5, 1972. Sister Warrick is still active in church and Sunday School. Several of her children and grandchildren have, at different times, attended and helped with the work and support of the church. Her daughter, Mable, and Mable's family still attend.

Nettie is noted for her pie-baking and quilt-making but, most of all, she is noted for a shining Christian witness to all who know her. Saved at the age of twelve, she has been, and is still, a living Christian witness for her Savior whom she loves and has faithfully served for nearly a century. She loves being with her family and having dinners together. She loves when her church family comes to see her, especially the children who come from time to time to sing for her.

"Grandma Warrick," as she is known to all at Kingsway, is a shining light to all that respect and love her so much. She has been a blessing to all the church family.



Minute Meditation

by Rev. Gary Fry

"In the multitude of words there lacketh not sin, but he that refraineth his lips is wise."
Proverbs 10:19

Have you ever noticed how Americans dislike silence? We have the idea that if someone is silent, they don't like us and are refusing to talk, they are unfriendly, just ignorant, or not much of a conversationalist. Some people just seem to be afflicted with the "elevator syndrome." You know, just look at the ceiling and keep their mouths shut.

But sometimes, silence can be a virtue. This passage from Proverbs seems to support the idea that silence can be golden.

There is a story told of a tourist staying overnight in a little Vermont town. He joined a group of men sitting on the porch of the general store and tried to engage them in conversation. Getting no response, he said, "Is there a law against talking in this town?"

"Nope," replied one seasoned Vermonter, "There ain't no law against it, we just like to make sure it's an improvement on silence."

This passage from Proverbs reminds us that too much speaking can often be an invitation to sin. If we couple this passage with five others that give us conditions when silence is the better course, we can save ourselves a lot of trouble. The five are: when we don't know what we are talking about (Job 38:2); when our hearts are filled with pride (Psalm 12:3,4); when we have an urge to spread gossip (Proverbs 18:8); when we say whatever comes to our minds (Proverbs 29:11); when we become angry without cause (Matthew 5:22).

If these admonitions were our rule of practice when speaking, our speech could be as golden as silence is reputed to be.

Georgia Pastor Joins Bible College Staff

Rev. Roy Harris, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Savannah, Georgia, will join the Free Will Baptist Bible College staff in early July to work in the area of Public Relations, according to Dr. Tom Malone, President.

Rev. Harris will work with the FWBBC Public Relations Director Bob Shockey until Rev. Shockey retires from the staff in December.

This will be the third time Rev. Harris has worked for the college, serving both times previously as Dean of Students, 1977-80 and 1987-91. The Indiana native graduated from the Bible College in 1977. His pastorates have included service at churches in North Carolina and Kentucky, as well as his present ministry in Georgia.

President Malone cited several strengths he believes Rev. Harris will bring to his work for the college. "He is an able planner, a gifted organizer, a talented preacher and he knows our denomination well," he said. "I think Roy is well-accepted by our Free Will Baptist pastors and alumni."

The six months he works with Rev. Shockey will give Rev. Harris time to move smoothly into his new role as Public Relations Director.

The college has been served well by Rev. Shockey since 1984. His offices have included Campus Pastor, Student Support Director, and Christian Service Director, as well as Public Relations Director. The college hopes to have him as its representative at associational meetings, as time permits, according to President Malone.

"Sunday School Enrollment" Winners Announced

The following Sunday Schools earned first and second place in the 1994 Spring Sunday School Enlargement Campaign sponsored by Randall House Publications.

Division B	% Increase	# Increase
Northside, Tulsa, OK	89.4	389
Division C		
First, Farmington, MO	18.4	57
Division D		
Calvary, Fenton, MO	34.2	86
Division E		
First, Checotah, OK	21.4	42
First, DeSoto, MO	11.1	20
Division F		
Fairfield, Fairfield, CA	55.0	77
First, Cape Girardeau, MO	30.6	31
Division G		
Tabernacle, Coward, SC	50.0	46
Lafayette, Stigler, OK	38.7	24
Division H		
First, Ft. Gibson, OK	134.6	66
Ashland, Hayward, CA	125.0	15

64 entries were received from 21 states. The average percentage of increase among all churches was 42.29. Awards are being prepared for the winners in each division. The Fall 1994 Sunday School Enlargement Campaign is entitled "Friend Day" and will be conducted during the month of October.

Hannon Youth News

by Virginia Hoover

Hannon Free Will Baptist Church in Liberal enjoyed fifteen members of their youth group conducting the evening service on March 27th. Matt Zimmerman began the evening with a humorous scripture-based reading. He was accompanied by Adam Montee



Youth Group Who Conducted The Service

(L-R Back Row) Adam Montee, Jess Green, Kyle Hoover, Shannon Dingman, Jonathan Bunch, Joe Yoast and Matt Zimmerman. (L-R Front Row) Gena Hoover, Miranda & Kendra Shaw, Sherri Dingman, Janet Stansberry, Missy Yoast and Christy Zimmerman. (Photo by Dianne Naumann)

and Jess Green's guitar music. Cammie Green sang "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing," and Sherri and Shannon Dingman played a clarinet/trumpet duet. Two uniformed "football players," Kyle Hoover and Jess Green, "pumped us up" to read the Old and New Testaments and were followed by a duet by Cammie Green and Gena Hoover, accompanied by Barb Hopkins on the piano. "Friends for Life, Friends for Eternity" was a two-part skit presented by Christy Zimmerman, Misty Yoast, Janet Stansberry, Kendra Shaw, Miranda Shaw, and Cammie Green. Another skit, presented a skit depicting a carnival barker (Jonathan Bunch) trying to get a young couple (Gena Hoover and Joe Yoast) to hit the goal (Heaven) with good works and self-righteousness -- not through Christ.

The entire group sang two specials then Jess Green concluded by reading the story of the Prodigal Son found in Luke. Pastor George Naumann thanked the group as well as their leaders, Kay Montee and Suzanne Bunton. Following the special service, the church enjoyed a time of refreshments and fellowship.

Several of the youth are meeting at 5:00 on Sunday evenings for a puppet ministry. Hannon's Youth also participated in the National Day of Prayer concert.

Last year was the first year Hannon entered the CTS Youth Competitive Activities. This prepared them better to train several entries to attend this year's competition.

Hannon Church is thankful for their youth and the dedicated workers who lead them.

Leola Ames

Home with the Lord

Leola H. Ames was born on November 28, 1928, in Detroit, Michigan. She redeemed her one-way ticket to Glory just around midnight on Sunday evening, March 27, 1994, at the age of 65 years old.

She was preceded in death by her father, Juel Bowling, and her mother, Daisy Hamblin, and two brothers, Clark and Harry. She suffered the tragic loss of her baby daughter, Sandra Kay, in 1969. Today, we are confident by her own testimony that she is having quite a reunion with her baby girl and Jesus!



Rev. and Mrs. Earl Ames

Left behind to mourn her absence and cherish her precious memories are her husband, Rev. Earl Ames, a well-known minister in Missouri Free Will Baptists, and children, Richard, Barbara, and Lee Ann. Also left behind are her children's spouses, Pat, Gary, and Vernon, who Leola would tell you without hesitation were her family also. Her very special treasures were her grandchildren, Michelle, Scott, Brian, Devin, Megan, and her last baby, Tracy. She also had the pleasure of watching her great-grandson, Zachary, grow and become a handsome little one-year-old.

Also, Leola was honored to have a special daughter in love, though not in blood. She has been a second mother to Roberta Wilfong and a grandmother to Roberta's children, Darin, Jennifer, and Amanda.

Leola leaves behind her two sisters, Leta Lane and Bonnie Hilderbrand, who will miss their sister so very much. To them, she leaves her invitation to be ready to join her some day.

Leola has a great host of friends and family. She is remembered fondly as a special aunt by her many nieces and nephews. She also had many aunts and uncles who were treasured by her.

Leola's life was dedicated to her Lord and her family. She served her Savior and her churches for many years and left a legacy of memories for many people to remember. Her favorite Bible text was Ecclesiastes 3:1-12.

Below are two letters written by Leola's daughters, Barbara and Lee Ann, respectively:

If there were a song title used to best describe my mom, it would be "I'll Be There." She is probably the closest to "omnipresent" that someone on earth could get. My most-used phrase during school was "My mom will" (i.e., "My mom will drive us," "My mom will bake a pie or cake," "My mom will help with the school activities.") She was there for my boys' births as well as any sickness, surgery, or heartbreak I had to face. When Devin was rushed to Cardinal Glennon for seizures, Mom never left my side. When Brian called from Fort Leonard Wood with a quiver in his voice, Mom got a call from this hysterical, crying mother. Her amazing sense of humor got me through some really tough times.

Mom's caring went far beyond her family: she also had a compassion for God's small creatures. I saw her resuscitate a

baby chicken back to life, enter the yards of complete strangers to give their animals a drink of water, and bring an entire litter of baby pigs into our house to feed them with eyedroppers to keep them alive.

She was my Mom, my best friend, my comforter, my teacher and, most of all, the best example of how to conduct my life.

Who was Leola Ames?

She was never a great public speaker who reached thousands with one sermon, but we will never know just how many lives were touched when Leola spoke some simple words of faith to someone in need.

She was never a learned scholar, but she probably read more books, told more stories, and helped her kids study everything from chemistry to weekly Bible memory verses than anyone else ever did.

She was never a famous philosopher, but how many young brides and mothers "hung in there" because of the encouragement and advice Leola shared with them about life and living?

She was never a world-known war heroine, but she overpowered a diagnosis in October, 1978, telling her she could never walk again.

She didn't carry a degree in medicine, but she nursed every one of her children and grandchildren through everything from appendicitis attacks to broken bones.

She didn't have a black belt in karate, but woe to anyone who might think about hurting her kids.

She was not Dr. Spock, but she probably has comforted more unhappy babies in the church nursery than anyone ever has. Her first love of service in the church was the nursery. She wasn't attending a church very long until she had a baby or two in her nursery care. She could get a baby to stop fussing faster than anyone, and she didn't prescribe to a psychology book . . . she just loved them.

She was not a world-renowned chef, but all of us here can recall a peach pie, green beans, a carrot cake, just to name a few, that was cooked perfectly by Leola. She loved to serve by cooking -- and we loved to be ministered to with her special dishes!

Even in her death, she did not wish to be a spectacle. She waited until everyone had left, and she knew her beloved husband and her children were asleep, before she slept. How many other times had she stayed up late until everyone was settled in? Finally, on Sunday night, when we were all safe and asleep, Leola, with just one dear minister's watch, went on to eternity.

By the world's standards, Leola was just an average, ordinary housewife. But in God's eyes and in our hearts, she was a superhero! She preferred the kitchen to the stage; the nursery worker to the Adult Sunday School teacher position. She would have rather cleaned and scrubbed your house (and has cleaned a lot of our homes) than to have been singled out with great honors and recognition.

Her niece described her Aunt Leola the other day by saying she was a real lady. She may have been plain and unobtrusive on the outside, but she was a lady on the inside.

We will never know how many lives were touched by this lady, Leola Ames, but I think each of us can recall at least one time when this lady reached out to us. Farewell, sweet lady, it is your turn to rest. But you know, I have a feeling that even in Heaven it won't be long until Leola has found a rocking chair and some little babies to cuddle and love. That's okay, Mama, do what you love best! We'll see you soon.

From Your Home Missionaries in Missouri - Jim Mertz Newsletter

Dear Faithful Friend:

Once again it is a joy to write to you and update you on how the Lord is working in our lives here at the **Wentzville Mission**. As you read this letter, please know how much you are **loved** and **appreciated!** Your faithful support and prayers have kept us going.

Well, the first quarter of 1994 is history, and we have been able to continue on our goals this year of 50% pastor's support plus all other expenses! We praise the Lord for this. Our people at Wentzville have been committed to reaching this goal of "self-supporting status" sometime next year, Lord willing. We do not want to rush it, but we also want to organize our church soon and have you direct your support to starting another new church. Truly, these years here have been like the "*Screaming Eagle Roller Coaster*" starting slowly . . . gradually climbing . . . going to the top . . . slowly reaching the ascent . . . and then suddenly . . . down, very quickly . . . sometimes losing your breath, heart and emotions . . . then slowly . . . gradually start back up the hill again . . . knowing around the next bend could be another drop!

Thank God, I know He has never failed, and He has been with us through it all. We have found Him faithful, and a good church is emerging for His glory that will continue to be a *soul-winning station* for Him in a growing area.

We had a great Roll Call Sunday on March 27. We broke our old record by one, with an attendance of **141** with **2** being saved.

Calendar of Events 1994

- **Missouri State Convention/Woman's Auxiliary Convention** - June 6 - 9, 1994
Civic Center, West Plains, MO
- **Youth Camp**
Teen Camp Group 1, **June 12 - 17, 1994**
Teen Camp Group 2, **June 19 - 24, 1994**
Pre - Teen Group 1, **July 24 - 29, 1994**
Pre - Teen Group 2, **July 31 - August 5, 1994**

Group 1	Group 2
Greater Springfield	Greater Kansas City
Boothel	Northwest
Indian Creek	South Central
Central Western	Northeast
Mission	St. Louis
Cave Springs	St. Francois
Liberty	Mid-Rivers
Niangua	
Laclede	
- **National Convention, NYC & WNAC**
July 17 - 21, 1994 - Little Rock, Arkansas
- **Missouri Woman's Auxiliary Retreat**
August 19 - 20, 1994 - Stonecroft Conference Center
- **Preacher/Layman's Retreat & All Boards Meeting** - September 19, 20, 1994
Youth Camp, Niangua, MO
- **Missouri Youth Conference**
November 18 - 19, 1994
Wendernere Baptist Assembly

Suggestion: Put this information on your Church Bulletin Board.

Also, it was a pleasure to welcome Home Missionary **Bob Lewis** to our church recently. He's starting a new work in **Grand Junction, Colorado**. Our church decided to adopt him and his family as our missionaries for 1994 with over \$110.00 a month pledged for their support. Our church gives over \$400.00 a month to outside giving in our denomination as well. I say that not to boast, but to relate to you that our church is not only grateful to receive but happy to give to the cause also!

Another praise item: Even though my wife **Rose** does have glaucoma in its secondary stage, this means it is *treatable*, but not curable. The doctor first thought she needed laser surgery because of optic nerve damage. However, because of further tests (and prayers) he reversed the decision and said her pressure was normal, and no surgery is needed. Thank you for your prayers for me and my family. They are *needed and appreciated* more than I can say. "*To God be the glory, great things He hath done!*" Our beautiful *Prayer Garden* is in full bloom now.

Come to see us if you can and remember us when you pray, **for the Lord to help delete our big deficit account**, and that we may organize our church next year.

Yours in Christ's Love,

Jim, Rose, Angel and Matt Mertz

Ordination Service Held

by Judy Pierce

Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church in Richland was joined by the Gardner Free Will Baptist Church after morning services on April 17. The churches joined to witness the ordination of Gardner's pastor, Tim Blankenship.

Following a dinner served at Cross Roads, Pastor Craig Perry welcomed those in attendance. Rev. Bill Eden, moderator of the Laclede County Association, led the service.

Special music was brought by Bro. Blankenship's wife, Angie, Celisa Harris, and the New Life Quartet. Rev. J. D. Caffey, the Blankenships' former pastor, gave the charges using scripture from I Timothy 3 and Joshua 1. The message brought many challenges, encouraged them to be strong and of courage, reminded them that the Lord would not fail nor forsake them, directed them to meditate on the Word and to take everything to the Lord in prayer.



Reverend and Mrs. Tim Blankenship

The couple knelt at the altar as Rev. Perry led in the laying on of hands. Bro. Jan Eilenstein led the congregation in song as they extended a hand of fellowship to the Blankenships. Ronnie Pierce, Sister Blankenship's father, dismissed the service in prayer.

Jones Chapel Happenings

by Pam Hudson

Jones Chapel's Children's Church recently raised over \$100 for the "Have a Heart for Hillsdale" campaign. This money was to add to the \$500 from the church.



Jones Chapel Children's Church



Sister Edna Gentry

For almost 67 years, Sister Edna Gentry has faithfully held the piano bench at Jones Chapel. She first attended the church as an infant and began her ministry at the piano at age 12. She became the official piano player at age 15. It is a rare service she does not accompany the church. She is such a blessing to the congregation with her uplifting and continually encouraging spirit. At age 82, Edna enjoys remarkably wonderful health and is a strong soldier for her Lord and Savior.

Free Will Baptists

continued from page 3

into existence one hundred and thirty churches with about 6,000 members, before his death in 1808.

These northern churches first called themselves the "Church of Christ." It wasn't until after 1800 that "Free Will Baptist" was used. Many associations still use "Church of Christ" as a part of their name.

In the south, all the churches were usually thought of as General Baptists, if they believed in the general atonement. The Calvinists were called Particular Baptists because they believed Christ died for the elect only, making the atonement particular.

During this period of time, both General and Particular Baptists met in union. "After the union, the Calvinists took the position that, if the nature of the atonement was general, no one could avail himself of the benefits of Christ's death but the elect; that the non-elect could not do anything toward his salvation, for he was predestined for hell; that man's will was not free. The argument turned from that time on to the freedom of will; and those General Baptists that would not go into the union were nicknamed Free Willers, because they emphasized the freedom of the human will."

The Revolutionary War scattered the Baptists. Whole communities migrated to the west taking their religion with them. Religious leaders among these soon felt the need to organize general meetings. First there was the formation of the Southwestern Convention with the intention of taking in all the Free Will

Baptists in the Southwest states (1901); then the Cooperative General Association met in 1916 with the states of Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. The Eastern Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of the United States met to organize the states left on the eastern side of the Mississippi River.

Sectional differences were finally laid aside in 1935 when the National Association of Free Will Baptists was finally formed. Denominational Headquarters were placed in Nashville, Tennessee.

Can Anyone Top This?

The South Central Association has pledged \$200.00 to the new men's bathhouse at the Youth Camp. They would like to challenge the other associations to do the same.

The Revocable Living Trust

If you want to avoid probate, protect your heirs, and not pay any unnecessary estate taxes, the Living Trust may be exactly what you need and want.

It was Oliver Wendell Holmes who said, "Put not your trust in money, but put your money in trust." That is certainly applicable in this age and generation.

(1) The Living Trust avoids probate. Since the purpose of the probate court is to establish what a deceased person owned and who will now receive his/her property, probating items in a Living Trust is unnecessary, because those two questions are already satisfactorily answered.

(2) A Living Trust is a private transaction. Probate proceedings, including the estate inventory, are matter of public record. But items transferred from the estate of a descendant by means of the Living Trust are not made public. Nosy neighbors, relatives receiving no inheritance, even con artists who may want to pursue a list of debts and assets have no knowledge of the proceedings because it is a private transaction.

(3) A Living Trust is usually settled more quickly. Sometimes, and more often than not, probate court proceedings are lengthy. Because of the nature and function of the Living Trust, it is usually settled much more quickly.

(4) A Living Trust provides for a Successor Trustee to manage your assets in the event of your death or legal incapacity. If a person becomes "legally incapacitated," the court usually gives someone power of attorney to take care of the business. By having one's assets in and owned by a Living Trust, you have already named your Successor Trustee and would not be at the mercy of the court to choose the person to handle your affairs.

The Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists provides the help you need in having a Living Trust prepared. If you are interested, fill out the form below and mail to Clarence Burton, Stewardship Commission, 115 Brook, Lebanon, MO 65536.

I am interested in the Living Trust.

Name _____

Address _____

(Street)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Using People's Gifts: *Making the Most of the Talents Around You*

by Don Cousins

Having grown up in a strong evangelical church, I was privileged to receive solid biblical teaching for the first eighteen years of my life. So it seems strange to even admit that I didn't hear about spiritual gifts until I went away to college.

During my freshman year, I received a long letter from a friend that contained a thorough description and explanation of spiritual gifts. After reading it, I had two immediate and almost simultaneous reactions. The first was, "Wow -- every believer has been given a divine ability to make a difference in God's kingdom. This is revolutionary!" My second thought was, "Why haven't I heard of this before? I can't believe that I've sat for eighteen years in a Bible-teaching church and never really heard about this. It's unbelievable!"

I had never received an explanation of spiritual gifts, much less seen their application in the church. Although I didn't realize it at the time, this new understanding would greatly impact my future life and ministry.

During that freshman year in college, I decided to pursue a career in ministry. I returned home to the Chicagoland area and joined my old friend Bill Hybels, and a handful of other people, in planting Willow Creek Community Church. For seventeen years, I served on Willow Creek staff, a church well known for its unwavering commitment to reaching unsaved people with the Gospel. Though Willow Creek has received significant attention for its evangelistic effectiveness, it should receive equal attention for its unwavering commitment to "gift-based" ministry.

At a leadership retreat, some of us evaluated the church. We unanimously agreed that our volunteer staff was one of the church's greatest strengths. Why? Our people had discovered and were exercising their spiritual gifts. The result? A divinely empowered volunteer army for God. It's no exaggeration to say that Willow Creek would not be the church it is today were it not for the volunteers who make it run.

Valuing People's Gifts

From day one, we placed a value on helping believers discover their divine giftedness. The result has been multifaceted. First of all, those believers are bearing fruit -- making a difference in building the body of Christ. Secondly, they are fulfilled. They walk around with joy in their hearts and a sense of deep satisfaction, knowing that what they are doing really matters and is making a difference. Thirdly, they are faithful over time. They keep serving -- year after year after year. In fact, the church has more problems with people burning out due to over-involvement than it does with people saying, "I've grown tired of this," "I don't want to do it anymore," or "This bores me."

Putting People to Work

In addition to that volunteer army, the impact of spiritual giftedness has been the development of the paid staff. You ask, "What do you mean?" I mean that the majority of the non-clerical staff at Willow Creek are homegrown -- they have been raised up from within the congregation.

Many people, while employed elsewhere, got a taste of what it meant to be used of God in the church. Their gifts were identified and they began to exercise them. Those gifts were empowered by the Holy Spirit, and the result was a divine sort of impact. In many cases, people reacted to that impact with, "We want more of this!" The more they tasted of difference-making, the more they wanted

to taste it. No thrill surpasses the thrill of seeing God use our lives to make a difference.

As we watched God's work going on through some of these people, we would say to each other, "We need to give these people jobs (as secretaries, graphic designers, program coordinators, etc.) so they can do this more often. They're making an incredible impact in five, ten, or fifteen hours a week, but think if they had forty or fifty hours a week through which to really employ their gifts!" In many cases, we went to them and said, "We'd like to give you an office, a salary, and a job description that allows you to use your gift full-time."

Making a Difference

Don't underestimate the significance of your role as the Sunday school teacher, youth leader, pastor, or other Christian education worker -- many of the people sitting around you are in the dark concerning God's gifting for them. While they've heard many good messages, many may be ignorant or confused about the role of spiritual gifts in their lives. They don't really understand what it's all about and have not yet tasted of the power of giftedness in action. Here are some helpful tips on how you can make a difference for them:

1. Help people see God as a personal God. God is so personal that He has given each of us at least one gift. I Corinthians 12:11 says, "All these [gifts] are the work of one and same Spirit, and He gives them to each one, just as He determines." Our God is so personal that through His Holy Spirit, He assigns gifts to individual believers with the intent that they make a specific contribution to the body of Christ. Make it your goal to have people see God that way and worship Him for being so.

2. Help people discover their gift(s). Teach with such passion and clarity that the people in your group will actually discover their gifts and are motivated to use them. Pray over your material. Pray for the people. Pray for discernment, wisdom, and insight as it relates to each one of them as individuals. Teach with enthusiasm. Explain and illustrate each gift with a relevant application. When you draw a clear picture of each gift in action, people will say, "That's me!" or "That's not me." It's your job to help every person discover his or her own gift(s)!

3. Help people find a place to try their gifts. Like a football coach who uses a chalkboard and "X's" and "O's" to explain plays, explain the gifts. Then, take your players to the field to play. The game's not won in the locker room; it's won on the field. It's on the field that God, others, and you have the opportunity to affirm or deny the presence of a specific gift. This means being willing to follow up each individual in your group, long after your time together is completed.

4. Affirm people's gift-based ministries. Watch, observe, and when they have finished their gift-based assignments, step back in. Talk with them and ask, "Did you sense God using your life for this purpose? Do you feel fulfilled? Did you enjoy it? Do you want to do it again?" At the same time, give your objective opinion. Your honest affirmation or denial of their gifts in action is extremely important. If there's doubt in your mind and theirs, encourage them to experiment again. If there's no doubt, encourage them to continue and develop their gifts with the hope of even greater impact.

If you facilitate each person's walk through those four steps of seeing God as a personal God, discovering a specific gift, trying that gift, and then affirming it, then you have done them, the church, and God a great service. It's my guess that along the way you'll taste the flavor of difference-making yourself, and you'll return to taste it again and again.

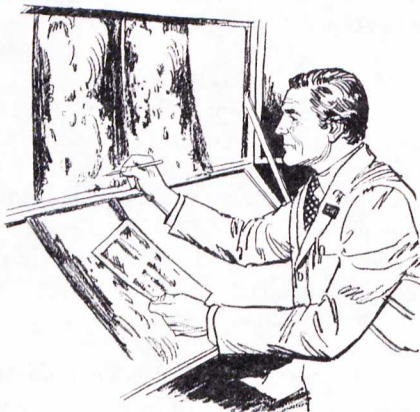
(This article is courtesy of David C. Cook Church Ministries Group.)

Oh, the Wonder of it All!

by Pam Hudson

Healing, either instantaneously or gradually, is a true, genuine miracle. The next time you cut yourself with a paring knife or paper or you see a child skin her knee, think about what is required of the body for healing to occur.

First, the bleeding must be stopped. The circulatory system is a series of pipes which carry blood to every part of your body. If a leak in the system is left unchecked, the blood in your body would just continue to drain. In order to fix the leak, platelet cells must rupture, releasing special enzymes that trigger a chain reaction of other enzymatic proteins in the blood. The end result is a web of thin fiber (fibrin) which traps passing blood cells to form a plug.



As the clot is formed at the surface, underneath several other reactions are occurring. The cells within the wall of the injured vessel are replicating rapidly to repair the tear. There is a rush of blood, with extra white blood cells, to the affected area. The white blood cells not only serve to fight off any infection that may have entered the cut, but they also penetrate and clean the area cells. The extra blood also carries with it significant amounts of oxygen that enables the cells to work harder and longer and continue to replicate.

All along the injured tissue, special cells called thromboplasts form along the line of injury and contract to close the wound. They will "over" replicate to protect against future harm.

The precise order, the incredibly complex biochemistry involved, the remarkable speed at which it occurs is a strong, loud testimony to the greatness of our Creator and God. So often we give God the credit for the "miraculous" healings when doctors can't explain, but is He any less great and marvelous as He heals us daily "naturally?" When we begin to appreciate how truly intricate and meticulous we are created, we are forced to confess and bow before Him who is truly worthy of our worship.

Good News from Foreign Fields

by R. Eugene Waddell, General Director

God is truly allowing Free Will Baptists to reap a harvest of souls overseas:

*Five university students were saved and two rededicated themselves to Christ at the Spring retreat in France. These bring the total number of conversions through Charolette Tallent's university student ministry to 11 this year.

*Twenty conversions were reported in January by Tom and Nancy Hughes at the Second Free Will Baptist Church in Uberlandia, Brazil. Jim Combs baptized seven people in Araras, Brazil, in the month of February.

*Approximately fifty people have been saved and are enrolled in a baptismal course in the Bondoukou area of Cote d'Ivoire, where the Pinkertons, Moores, and the Ernest Hollands are serving. In the last couple of months 23 new converts in the Bouna area have been baptized after they completed a new convert's course.

*During the month of February several children were saved in five different vacation Bible schools in Uruguay.

Sunday School Averages November 1993 - April 1994

CHURCHES	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR
Belton	65	65	66	65	66	64
Bethel - Festus	58	55	53	67	66	64
Calvary Chapel	72	71	71	78		81
Calvary Fellowship	229	218	236	242	337	
Cape Girardeau	84		75	99	132	91
Central	68	69	69			
Cuba	106	102	112	114	124	120
DeSoto	165	183	172	187	200	184
Farmington	338	370	339	367	408	387
Hannon	81	79	81	78	83	81
Harmony			66	72	81	72
Hartville		98	97	93		101
Hopewell	34	33	33	33	33	33
Houston	59	51	51	52	59	61
Jones Creek	12	12	13		13	18
Kirksville	31	28	24	28		
Lebanon First	107	111	96	115	118	115
Mill Creek			51	51	51	55
Monett			110	110	110	
Myrtle	25	27	26	27	26	27
Ozark	44	49	42	48	50	59
Park Hills First	131	131	126	130	141	
Parkview	42	48	46	44	42	
Richwoods	34	32	32	35		
Rock Chapel	64	69	63	66	77	
Springfield First	108	108	101	105	123	102
Thayer	104	125	117	126	146	132
United, West Plains	209	220	199	228		203
Unity	40	39	35	39	44	37
Verdella	74	81	69	72	73	75
Willow Springs	66	62	49	65	61	72

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.

Bits and Pieces

March was a big month for the DeSoto Church. The annual homecoming was held, the men of the church prepared breakfast for the workers of the church's "work day," and the Joymakers prepared and served dinner for the "Special Friends Banquet."

ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE/CHINA

P. O. Box 265 // San Dimas, CA 91773

800-FON-ELIC (366-3542)

Christians are desperately needed to fill teaching positions in China, Mongolia, and Vietnam for year and summer 1994. Contracts with these countries may go unfulfilled unless enough people are found, meaning 2,000 Asian students may never meet a dedicated Christian teacher. It's not necessary to know a foreign language or to be a teacher by profession. You just need to hold or be in pursuit of a bachelor's degree. Call today for more information: 1-800-366-3542.

Financial Information

APRIL 1994

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

18.50% Mo. State Home Missions Board	\$7,335.14
17.50% Executive Office	6,938.65
3.50% General Fund	1,387.73
8.50% Youth Camp Bd.	3,370.20
2.50% Youth Ministries Bd.	991.24
2.50% C.E. Board	991.24
2.50% Sr. Adult Ministries Board	991.24
9.00% Mo. State Retirement Program	3,568.45
30.50% Nat'l. Ministries, Hillsdale & Calif. Christian College	12,093.07
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	
1.00% Calif. Christian College (\$120.93 included in \$12,093.07)	
5.00% Mo. State Conference Center Fund	1,982.47
TOTAL	\$39,649.43

"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 blessed us with another good month. He is to be praised.

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

APRIL 1994 COOPERATIVE

Mt. Zion - Gower	\$ 55.10
Number One	56.93
Byrd	86.00
Koshkonong	114.79
Smyrna	120.00
Clifton	135.69
Union Grove	191.00
Mill Creek	204.96
Cross Roads, Richland	250.00
Rolla	90.52
Leadington	360.00
Harmony	466.00
Union, Success	60.00
Hartville	461.29
Meris Chapel	210.00
O'Fallon 1st	578.48
Blue Springs	296.85
Central	693.37
Overland	99.00
Monett 1st	568.66
Hannon	625.79
Thayer	572.00
Mountain Grove 1st	1,201.02
Tyrone	25.85
Lone Star	57.32
Bourbon	64.76
North Five	96.92
Happy Home	103.34
Royal Oak	110.00
Victory, Alton	145.80
Black Oak	201.19
Liberty, Phillipsburg	277.00
Bethel, Festus	409.00
Cape Girardeau 1st	705.34
New Hope, Fredericktown	20.00
Oskaloosa	237.84
Oak Hill, Fredericktown	63.35
Bailey Chapel, Tunas	74.00
Terrill Road	200.00
Freeman Chapel	193.67
Willow Spgs, Mtn. Grove	250.58
Greenfield	165.00
Pleasant Ridge, Urbana	107.00
Houston 1st	363.87
Faith & Hope, Willow Spgs.	50.33
Eastern Gate	322.97
Parkview	384.22
Rock Chapel	411.89
South Fremont	1,000.00
DeSoto	860.00
Mine La Motte	46.21
Seymour	161.00

Hopewell, Tunas	114.00
Belton	356.18
Hurryville	321.97
Carthage	365.00
Jones Chapel	539.10
Springfield 1st	768.37
Columbia	87.00
Lebanon 1st	596.30
Verdella	389.77
Pleasant Home, Mtn. Grove	478.26
New Home, Falcon	221.73
Twin Oak	892.65
Potosi 1st	111.25
Richwoods	450.00
Faith, Oak Grove	230.70
Fredericktown 1st	315.00
Cabool	290.51
Fellowship, Park Hills	400.00
Unity	368.00
Calvary Chapel	253.67
West Plains 1st	515.00
Mt. Pisgah, Cabool	209.00
Fordland	406.60
Stockton	106.10
Crossroads, Wentzville	317.00
Wilderness	365.00
Oak Hill, Union	418.08
Bethel, El Dorado Spgs.	69.83
Union Light	97.00
Trinity	7,578.31
Neosho 1st	71.25
Copper Mines	216.77
Pleasant Hill, Thayer	65.40
Marshfield	222.78
Wolf Creek	407.43
Park Hills 1st	569.15
Grace	1,047.00
St. Francois Assoc.	16.50
Kingsway	328.63
Clifton	128.80
Bailey Chapel, Tunas	75.00
Berean	24.00
Waynesville	274.43
Myrtle	172.50
Victory, KC	250.91
Farmington	1,896.88
Fourth	249.00
South Fremont	375.00
New Hope, Fredericktown	20.00
Leadington	375.00
Central	625.72
TOTAL	\$39,649.43

STATE HOME MISSIONS

O'Fallon 1st	\$ 73.85
Central	10.00
L. Wormington	30.00
Hannon	312.90
Thayer	52.50
Mountain Grove 1st	25.00
Madison Co. Qty. Mtg.	25.00
Pleasant Ridge, Urbana	25.00
Eastern Gate	20.00
Rock Chapel	124.24
South Fremont	45.00
DeSoto	50.00
B. King, DeSoto	50.00
F. Rogers, DeSoto	10.00
R. White, DeSoto	10.00
DeSoto Children's Church	80.00
Victor's CTS, DeSoto	20.00
Lebanon 1st	10.00
Pleasant Home, Mtn. Grove	19.73
West Plains 1st	5.00
Lebanon Book and Bible	190.00
Fordland	2.00
Viburnum	10.00
Oak Hill, Union	15.00
Union Light	56.00
Trinity	55.00
Macedonia Auxil., Purdy	50.00
New Testament	40.00
Marshfield	22.27
Grace	30.00
N. Ruble	15.00
Myrtle	42.00
Farmington	25.00
Fourth	30.00
Central	10.00
Total	\$1,590.49

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

O'Fallon 1st	\$ 78.75
Central	57.50
Overland	4.00
Richwoods	50.00
Beacon	310.00
Belton	56.00
Monett 1st	20.00
Hannon	67.58
Thayer	177.50
Mountain Grove 1st	45.00
J.W. Rader	20.00

S. Hart	10.00
St. Peters	10.00
Faith & Hope, Willow Spgs.	25.00
Eastern Gate	10.00
Leadington	20.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
Parkview	13.00
Rock Chapel	45.00
South Fremont	34.00
DeSoto	150.00
B. King, DeSoto	50.00
Columbia	10.00
Lebanon 1st	5.00
Verdella	20.00
Pleasant Home, Mtn. Grove	30.00
Oak Grove, Norwood	51.12
West Plains 1st	55.00
Mt. Pisgah, Cabool	50.00
Fordland	10.00
Calvary Fellowship	55.00
Viburnum	93.00
Bethel, Festus	25.00
Oak Hill, Union	21.00
Union Light	35.00
Trinity	100.00
Macedonia Auxil., Purdy	1,000.00
New Testament	100.00
Buffalo 1st	50.00
Wolf Creek	27.87
Park Hills 1st	66.92
Grace	115.00
B. Keith	10.00
Waynesville	25.00
N. Ruble	15.00
New Home, Hartville	20.00
Myrtle	87.00
Victory, KC	30.00
Farmington	35.00
Fourth	5.00
Central	60.00
TOTAL	\$3,470.34

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Union, Success	\$ 75.00
Hartville	92.26
Meris Chapel	200.00
O'Fallon 1st	78.85
Blue Springs	302.46
Central	121.00
D. Akeman	10.00
C. Thompson	50.00
Richwoods	30.00
Beacon	1,667.00
Belton	459.50
Monett 1st	440.00
Hannon	1,340.79
Thayer	192.50
Mtn. Grove 1st	364.00
Mtn. Grove 1st in memory of Elsie Edwards	135.00
Niangua	17.00
Union Mission	156.48
S. Hart	20.00
Freeman Chapel	458.50
St. Peters	60.00
Greenfield	207.27
Pleasant Ridge, Urbana	45.00
Houston 1st	119.04
Faith & Hope, Willow Spgs.	125.00
Eastern Gate	164.59
Leadington	40.00
Parkview Mission Group	60.00
Parkview	337.00
Rock Chapel	173.45
South Fremont	400.00
DeSoto	350.00
B. King, DeSoto	100.00
B. Thebeau, DeSoto	30.00
T. Lewis, DeSoto	10.00
K. Minor, DeSoto	10.00
J. Schebaum	10.00
Columbia	15.00
Lebanon 1st	95.00
Verdella	684.78
Pleasant Home, Mtn. Grove	135.93
Niangua	8.00
Parkview	700.00
Faith, St. Louis	75.00
Oak Grove, Norwood	102.24
F. Green	35.00
Unity	40.00
Calvary Chapel	50.00
West Plains 1st	35.00
Mt. Pisgah, Cabool	100.00
Oak Grove, Cabool	65.00
Fordland	132.00
Calvary Fellowship	754.64
Viburnum	173.00
Lebanon 1st Primary SS	5.00
Wilderness	20.00
Faith, Oak Grove	30.00
Bethel, Festus	85.00
Oak Hill, Union	17.00

Union Light	155.00
Trinity	3,241.32
Neosho 1st	185.00
Macedonia Auxil., Purdy	9,650.00
New Testament	120.00
Niangua	15.00
Marshfield	30.00
Park Hills 1st	227.68
Grace	54.00
Niangua	10.00
Waynesville	25.00
N. Ruble	30.00
New Home, Hartville	167.00
Myrtle	115.00
Victory, KC	150.00
Farmington	438.71
Fourth	50.00
South Fremont	83.00
Central	151.00
TOTAL	\$26,706.99

YOUTH CAMP

Union, Success	\$ 30.00
Hartville	10.00
Hannon	15.00
Thayer	37.50
Mtn. Grove 1st	10.00
Willow Springs, Mtn. Grove	10.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
DeSoto	50.00
Monett	120.00
Lebanon Bible and Book	85.00
Mt. Pisgah, Cabool	10.00
Calvary Fellowship	25.00
Trinity, Bridgeton	14.00
Buffalo 1st	50.00
Park Hills 1st	23.50
Pleasant Ridge, Urbana (Men's Bathhouse)	60.00
New Home, Hartville	10.00
Myrtle	32.00
South Central Assoc. (Men's Bathhouse)	200.00
TOTAL	\$802.00

FWB CHILDREN'S HOME - AL

Myrtle	\$3.00
TOTAL	\$3.00

WORLD RELIEF

Victory, K.C.	\$5.00
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FWB HOME FOR CHILDREN - TN

DeSoto 1st	\$100.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
TOTAL	\$110.00

NAT'L. ASSOC. OF FWB

Calvary Fellowship	\$ 26.00
Olivet, Marshall (Victory Camp.)	250.00
Victory, K.C. (Victory Camp.)	22.81
TOTAL	\$298.81

CALIF. CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Farmington	\$25.00
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FWB BIBLE COLLEGE

Thayer	\$ 37.50
DeSoto	35.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
Farmington	133.33
TOTAL	\$215.83

HILLSDALE FWB COLLEGE

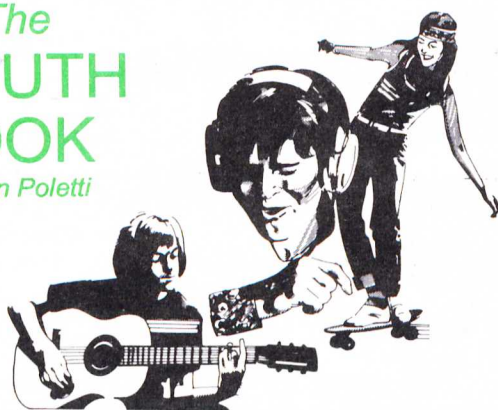
<i>Have A Heart For Hillsdale</i>	
Hannon	\$ 50.00
Thayer	42.50
Central	72.00
Eastern Gate	64.59
Calvary Chapel	95.07
Fordland	15.00
Oak Hill, Union	36.00
Bethel, El Dorado Spgs.	10.00
Neosho 1st (thru Indian Creek Association)	50.00
Trinity, Cabool	50.00
New Home, Hartville (thru Mission Association)	100.00
Victory, KC	54.81
Farmington	181.66
TOTAL	\$821.63

REV. JOHN McCCLURE

Thayer	\$ 10.00
Monett 1st	60.00
Fourth, St. Louis	15.00
Grace	15.00
TOTAL	\$100.00

The YOUTH LOOK

by Ann Poletti



"Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

This is the fifth commandment -- to hold one's parents in high respect. When the command was given, obedience's reward was attached. However, with such a rapid decline in respect for any authority, many would choose to ignore rewards and consequences for actions because this would mean we are accountable.

One's rebellion causes one's demise. By using a modern example, drugs, we see that by ignoring the warnings and participating anyway, the mind's and body's ability to function over an extended period of time is altered. Drugs also put the user in some dangerous situations he'd not be in otherwise.

Rebellion followed by sincere remorse and forgiveness may still have painful consequences as a result of disobedience. In Focus on the Family's video series, McGee and Me, the video "The Not-So-Great Escape" teaches youngsters just that. Nicholas, the series hero, is told by his parents not to see a particular horror movie but decided to sneak around and do so anyway. The

fear which seized him as a result of what he had seen on the screen eventually forced Nicholas to tell his parents of his disobedience. Wrongly assuming that getting his parents' and God's forgiveness would erase the scary images, Nicholas questioned why he must live with the fear if he was indeed forgiven. He learned that God allowed him to remember so he'd not want to repeat such behavior.

Juvenile delinquents often claim that their rebellion is a response to their illegitimacy or a family divorce, and parental inaccessibility. This latter phrase didn't even exist thirty years ago because its concept has evolved in the years since. In those thirty years, family life changed to necessitate such a term. With more one-parent households and less traditional family roles, more children are in someone else's care. Instead of seeing honorable traits in a parent, the child is learning what other persuaders tell him his parents are.

The "persuaders" teach dishonor not only through rebellion but also through indifference and laughable authority figures. Modern television tells us that disciplinary problems should be answered with a family conference which would allow the children to point out the parental failure. Music says our shortcomings are not self-induced but results of poor family training. Liberal activist groups promise an unconditional loving atmosphere in place of what they perceive as a rotten home life (which is often no more than a home with rules and values).

The original command was to "honor," not necessarily love. Though we should love our parents, we are commanded to honor them. This means they deserve our respect even when we don't feel especially loving toward them.

Society has changed, but the Word remains the same. God will reward obedience. Even the New Testament reiterates the command in Ephesians 6:2 -- "Honor thy father and mother; which is the first command WITH PROMISE." (emphasis mine).

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