

The background of the entire page is a stylized American flag. It features thick, wavy red and white stripes that curve across the frame. Scattered throughout the white stripes are blue stars of varying sizes. The overall effect is a patriotic, textured design.

# **GEM**

**THE  
FREE WILL BAPTIST**

**Volume 64, No. 7, July 1994**

"America, America,  
God Shed  
His Grace On Thee"



# The Evils of Gambling

by Rev. Robert B. Crawford

Christians feel instinctively that gambling is wrong. However we need to examine the reasons why gambling is evil.

Some church members believe that gambling has a place in modern life. There are church members who engage in various kinds of gambling games such as bingo as a means of raising money for the church. Others buy chances or tickets in order to win a bed quilt or a turkey for a meal, letting the profit from all the tickets sold go for a good cause. They have the philosophy that the end justifies the means. It is estimated that 50 million Americans gamble. That is almost one out of four.

## What the Bible Says About Gambling

The Bible does not state, "Thou shalt not gamble, bet money on a horse or dog, a ball game, the falling of cards or rolling of dice or the turn of a roulette wheel or match coins to get a soft drink for nothing or buy a lottery ticket to help with education funds."

Let's be reminded that though you do not read specifically concerning many life situations, yet in God's Word there are sufficient scriptures set forth that guide us in every situation.

Let's look briefly at four of the 10 commandments.

The first commandment is in Exodus 20:3, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Those who gamble are worshipping the god of mammon.

The second commandment, in Exodus 20:4 is, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image" (or any idol). Those who gamble are doing so because material things have become their god. They worship an idol.

The eighth commandment is in Exodus 20:15, "Thou shalt not steal." Methods used by gamblers steal from and rob another gambler. A willing gambling victim does not change the nature of the activity or the evil done.

The 10th commandment is in Exodus 20:17, "Thou shalt not covet." Participation in gambling is due to a covetous nature, the desire for more and more of the things that other people have, and which the gambler wants to get for himself without working for it in an honest way.

The New Testament scriptures also relate to the problem and the evil of gambling.

"Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law" (Romans 13:10). Gamblers wrong their neighbors. God always looks with great disfavor upon those who exploit others.

We also note Romans 13:14, "But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh to fulfill the lusts thereof." The Christian clothed with Jesus Christ, with his life yielded, will think and act like Jesus. Our love for and our faith in Him will not allow us to do harm to our neighbor nor to follow the lusts of the flesh.

## Gambling Violates the Word of God

Gambling encourages dependence on luck rather than on the providence of God. To the Christian, life is not a gamble. There are some uncertainties in life that all of us face day by day.

Christians walk by faith; the gambler bets on luck. The Christian's life is controlled by an all-knowing, all-loving, all-powerful and ever-present God who determines that everything that happens in life will result in good for him because he loves God and has been called according to His purpose.

Gambling is a false way of life because it is not a sure way of accomplishing needed goals. Therefore, it is evil.

Gambling is evil because it creates a desire to get something for nothing. No one gets a worthwhile thing for nothing. Someone has to pay the price. God does give us salvation as an act of His grace, but salvation cost the death of His Son. The worthwhile things of life take on true meaning when one works for them.

The Bible teaches that people are to work for what they get, "... let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth" (Ephesians 4:28).

Our permissive, able-bodied society has forgotten II Thessalonians 3:10, "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat."

The gambling spirit decreases the influence of the Holy Spirit on the individual. There is no spiritual power when a person participates to any degree in gambling. There is no fellowship with Jesus when the gambling spirit is present. Happiness, holiness and truth are foreign to the gambler.

Gambling is evil in that it defiles personality. God intended that the human body be the dwelling place of His Spirit. Whatever defiles the body and the mind of a person is sin. Gambling thrives on the weakness of people.

Many chapters of Gamblers Anonymous exist today to try to help the sinful, compulsive gambler to reform. The gambler, like the alcoholic, needs a Redeemer. The gambler is a sinner and needs salvation and preservation through Jesus.

The late Senator Estes Kefauver from Tennessee who worked on a special senate committee investigating organized crime and gambling said that the small wage earners, the people least able to bear the losses incurred by victims of gambling, have suffered from embezzlement, robbery and other crimes committed by men desperately attempting to regain gambling losses. Gambling hurts every area of a personality.

## The Right Attitude Toward Gamblers

As a citizen of heaven and a citizen of the state, what should be the attitude of the Christian toward gambling? Christians should always want to be wise in their decisions. Paul says in Ephesians 5:15-16, "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil."

There should be a knowledge of the situation facing you. We should be consistent in our actions and attitudes toward evil. We should always be ready to "abstain from all appearance of evil."

Christ wants His followers to be examples of a full and meaningful life so that those who know us might be influenced to turn to Christ and find peace for their empty hearts.

Paul expressed his prayer for the church in Phillipians 1:10, "That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ."

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The Christian should know that the evils of gambling affect life in many areas:

- Gambling violates the principles of God's Word.
- Gambling contributes to crime.
- Gambling corrupts government officials.
- Gambling hurts the economy; it never helps.
- Gambling wrecks lives and hurts innocent persons.

Therefore, there is no way to justify gambling in any form to the person who has trusted Christ as his Savior.

*(This article previously appeared in the "Contact" magazine.)*

## Look Out!

Some of our Missouri Free Will Baptist Churches have been taken by a con man who claims to be a Free Will Baptist minister from North Carolina. He has a good hard luck story and knows all the right things to say. If you are approached by a man claiming to be a Free Will Baptist minister, I suggest that you ask him what association he belongs to. Then, call the moderator of that association and verify his story.

## The Youth Look

### Beauty and the Beast\*

*by Ann Poletti*

*"Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised." Proverbs 31:30*

Cosmopolitan, Glamour, Seventeen, Redbook . . . These and other such magazines' covers are graced by the "most beautiful faces in the world." Who says so? The same authorities who determine what is fat and thin, fashionable and out-of-style, as well as pretty and ugly: SOCIETY AND THE MEDIA!!!

If one would like to see a fashion show at its finest, he might notice the church congregations on Sunday mornings. Discern whether the fuss over appearance is an effort to look one's best for the Lord or an attempt to measure up to society's standards; however, remember that it's easy for Christian women to fall victim to society's ideals of beauty and get swallowed up in the deceit.

In the days of such classical painters as Renoir and Rembrandt, a woman weighing less than 160 pounds was considered too disgustingly thin to portray on canvas. In this day, models literally starve themselves so they will not be larger than a size 6, and actresses "work out" 5-8 hours **A DAY** in order to appear fit on the screen. This leaves a normal woman feeling that she must assign herself to Jenny Craig when the scales tip 120 pounds.

Beauty, as society perceives it, is a major moneymaker. Cosmetic surgery is a \$300-million-a-year industry. Ninety per cent of those choosing the surgeries are women, while half of the patients earn less than \$25,000 a year. Because more women turn to cosmetics to hide flaws than turn to surgery, the cosmetic industry earns \$1,581,300 -- **AN HOUR!!!**

Clothing is no longer designed to keep one covered or comfortable during the changing seasons, but it is now something which provides a \$25,000-a-day salary to runway models. No longer is clothing made to fit personal tastes, but it is made to fit the current trends. Ads convince us that if the latest style isn't our style, we are out-of-style.

Looking at these facts makes one wonder from where came the idea that looking beautiful is being beautiful. That is a false

notion from a Biblical viewpoint since outer beauty is not something the Bible instructs us to desire.

Nowhere does Scripture lead us to believe that beauty possesses spiritual power. However, entertainment -- including such Disney classics as "Snow White" and "The Little Mermaid," just to name a couple -- sells the myth that beauty is good and can conquer evil.

The Bible does not focus much on beauty -- outer beauty, as we think of it. God did use Esther's beauty to fulfill His purpose, and we see what happened to David as a result of Bathsheba's beauty. But we are not really led to believe that beautiful women such as Ruth and Mary, the mother of Jesus, were outwardly attractive.

It is said that "beauty is only skin-deep." This may be true of outer beauty; however, real beauty will overwhelm others when it comes from the heart . . . and soul.

*(\*This is the title of a Focus on the Family book written by Debra Evans. This book provided many of my figures and topical information.)*

## News from Park Hills

**Deacon Appreciation Day** -- First Free Will Baptist Church of Park Hills recently celebrated Deacon Appreciation Day. The activities of the morning service centered on the deacon's office and responsibilities. The board members and their wives were presented with tokens of the church's esteem. George Mathews was honored as the chairman of the board and as the deacon with the longest tenure of service, 57 years.

Pastor Sterl Paramore commented, "Our church is 114 years old. There are not many Free Will Baptist churches with this distinction. Over the years, the church has served the community and our denomination well. From hosting two National Associations to providing a breeding ground for the Free Will Baptist movement in the Leadbelt (now the Parkland), we have a diverse history. None of the positive things would have been possible were it not for active lay-leadership. We thank our deacons, past and present, for helping the church navigate its course."

*(Pictured from left to right: Garry Sloan, Gail and Joe Stone, Venieta and Bob Barnes, Elsie and Bob Gammon. Not pictured are George and Wilma Mathews.)*



**Valedictorians** -- The First Free Will Baptist Church of Park Hills has an unusual distinction: The last two valedictorians of Park Hills' Central High School have been members of this church. Pastor Sterl Paramore expresses the church's pride in both young ladies and their accomplishments as well as a commitment to pray for the ladies as they follow their chosen paths of higher learning.

*(Pictured is Becky Hobaugh, left, Class of '94, being presented flowers by last year's Valedictorian, Regina Moyers.)*





# 1994 SENIOR ADULT RETREAT







Rev. Herbert & Bessie Vandivort

## A Tribute to the Love They Share

by Rev J. Mark Vandivort

I wish to pay tribute to my father and mother, Rev. Herbert and Bessie Vandivort, as they have celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary, February 28. Their love

for each other demonstrates the commitment they made when they promised, "For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish till death do us part."

Dad and Mother have been co-partners in their marriage, including rearing three sons, Mark, Dan, and Ben, operating their family dairy farm, and serving as pastor and wife of several Free Will Baptist churches. Co-partners, yet they each developed their own talents and special interests.

As a small boy, I recall happy memories of walking barefoot in the soft soil behind Dad as he guided a plow pulled by Bob and Beck, a team of mules that were faithful to their task for over 20 years. My job was to carry Dad a jar of fresh, cool water that Mother had drawn from the well by rope and bucket. While I delighted in the exciting sights and earthy smells as I accompanied Dad in the field, Mother might have been washing the family laundry by hand on a washboard or hoeing a luscious vegetable garden between cooking three bountiful and succulent meals. Also, Mother, who is an avid reader, continues to be well-known for her sewing, hand quilting, and beautiful flower gardens. Although she was secluded in an Ozark valley on clear flowing O'Possum Creek (where one could not see the neighbor's house), she has reached out to others through correspondence. Many friends from around the world have planted their feet under her bountiful table. She also found time to teach me to hoe the garden!

Dad was not passive in his duties as a father. I remember him kneeling down so his tear-stained face was level with his strong-willed son as he explained why it was necessary to discipline me.

Before the convenience of milking machines, Dad and Mother milked the cows by hand. While Dad frequently was away from home preaching in churches, Mother was in charge of the farm operation. I recall observing her tears of frustration on a cold winter night, with sleet and freezing rain falling, when some of the farm animals ran away, refusing to come into the comfort of the warm barn.

After 40 years of dairy farming, Mother and Dad sold their cows and retired. Dad keeps himself busy with crafts, gardening, and tending a few pet farm animals. When I call him, he loves to tell me about deer grazing the alfalfa field during a cool summer evening, and the variety of birds that visit his bird feeder during the winter.

Mother and Dad always turned to the Bible as a guide book in their marriage. And the local Free Will Baptist church remains an important focal point in their lives. Almost every week, Mother will tell me about visiting some ill or lonely neighbor as they deliver a home-baked pie.

The apostle Paul presents clear guidelines for the husband and wife relationship in Ephesians, chapter 5. A basic foundation of love and mutual submission to each other can be accomplished by being filled with the Holy Spirit who controls attitudes and actions.

(continued on back cover)

## Christian Purchasing Network and AT&T

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## Free Will Baptist Bible College News

**Dean's List:** The names of 90 students were placed on the Dean's List as the spring semester closed at Free Will Baptist Bible College in early May. Twelve of these made all A's for the semester. The others made B or higher in every class.

By classes, the Dean's List contains 16 seniors, 19 juniors, 20 sophomores, 33 freshmen and two special students.

Four Missouri students were on the Dean's List. They were freshman Jennifer Blanks from West Plains and sophomores Phil Ledgerwood from Parkville, Angel Mertz from O'Fallon, and Amy Pointer from Springfield.

(Editor's Note: Congratulations!)

**42 Graduates in Bible College Commencement:** Free Will Baptist Bible College graduated 42 students in Commencement Exercises on campus Thursday morning, May 12. Rev. Frank Owens, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Waldorf, Maryland, brought the challenge to seniors, their families and friends, and members of the college family. Rev. Owens was present for more than just to serve as speaker for the occasion since he was receiving a Master of Ministry degree from the college's graduate divisions.

The class represents 18 states, including seven from Tennessee, six from North Carolina and five from Illinois.



# WINNERS OF THE 1994 MISSOURI STATE COMPETITION

## 00.1 BIBLE MEMORIZATION

- \* 1st Grade Lindsay Keith
- \* 2nd Grade Lauren Helsley
- \* 3rd Grade Daniel Harkey

Wolf Creek  
Hartville  
Hartville

## 00.2 BIBLE SWORD DRILL

- \* 4th Grade Lyn Alison Martin
- \* 5th Grade Ashley Montee
- \* 6th Grade Lindsay Scott

Calvary Fellowship  
Hannon  
Calvary Fellowship

## 00.3 BIBLE TIC TAC TOE

### \* HARTVILLE

Rebecca Hughes, Grant Boyer  
Kyle Mays, Justin Dowden

## 01.1 VOCAL SOLO

### AGE GROUP

- \* A Ashley Dixon
- \* B Laura Terry

Calvary Fellowship  
Monett First

## 01.2 MALE VOCAL SOLO

- \* C Aaron Beck
- \* D Jason Stephens

Joplin First  
Calvary Fellowship

## 01.3 FEMALE VOCAL SOLO

- \* C Rebecca Majors
- \* D Lindsey Allen

Beacon  
Farmington First

## 02.2 VOCAL ENSEMBLE -- DUET

- \* A Ashley Dixon & Katie Conway
- \* B Calvary Boyz
- \* C Aaron Beck & Kim Dalton
- \* D Jason Stephens & Chrissy Stough

Calvary Fellowship  
Calvary Fellowship  
Joplin First  
DeSoto First

## 02.3 VOCAL ENSEMBLE -- TRIO

- \* B Hannon Girls' Trio
- \* C Hudson Trio
- \* F New Home Trio

Hannon  
Jones Chapel  
New Home

## 03.1 CHORALE

- \* B Kids Of Promise
- \* F Heart and Soul

Fellowship  
Farmington First

## 04.1 INSTRUMENTAL SOLO -- STRING (Bowed)

- \* C Aaron Beck

Joplin First

## 04.3 INSTRUMENTAL SOLO -- WOODWIND

- \* C Rebecca Majors

Beacon

## 05.6 SMALL INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE -- WOODWIND

- \* B Alisha Ragsdale/Lindsay Scott

Calvary Fellowship

## 05.6 SMALL INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE -- COMBINATION OF INSTRUMENTS

- \* F New Home Instrumental Trio

New Home

## 07.1 KEYBOARD SOLO -- MANUAL

- \* A Lukas Mawhirter
- \* B Lyn Alison Martin
- \* C Amanda Terry
- \* D Laura Sides

Beacon  
Calvary Fellowship  
Monett First  
Old Bethel

## 08.2 EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEECH

- \* C Callie Hudson

Jones Chapel

## 08.2 DRAMATIC SELECTION

- \* B Samantha Williams

Beacon

- \* D Jason Stephens

Calvary Fellowship

## 08.3 POETRY

- \* A Jeremy Crittendon
- \* B Lyn Alison Martin
- \* C Amanda Young

Calvary Fellowship  
Calvary Fellowship  
New Home

## 08.4 PROSE

- \* B Matthew Brock

Monett First

## 08.5 INTERPRETIVE READING OF SCRIPTURE

- \* A Sarah Helsley
- \* B Brian Lennox
- \* C Heath Coy
- \* D Sandy Anderson

Hartville  
Hartville  
Hartville  
Willow Springs

## 08.8 DUET ACTING

- \* C Matthew Brock/Chris Haynes

Monett First

## 08.9 READERS THEATER

- \* C Beacon Players

Beacon

## 08.0 SKIT

- \* C Monett Skit
- \* D Calvary Players
- \* F United Youth Skit

Monett First  
Calvary Fellowship  
United

## 11.1 SCULPTURE/POTTERY

- \* B Adam McNeely
- \* C Austin Williams

Carthage  
Carthage

## 11.2 PAINTING

- \* B Laura Terry
- \* C Patricia Chandler
- \* D Susan Smith

Monett First  
DeSoto First  
United

## 11.3 GRAPHICS

- \* A Christopher Medlin
- \* B Daniel Hempen
- \* C Megan Forbes
- \* E Kelly Shilling

Monett First  
Calvary Fellowship  
Beacon  
Carthage

## 11.4 CERAMIC

- \* A Kerrie Morgan

Hannon

## 11.5 TEXTILES

- \* A Kerrie Morgan
- \* E Kelly Shilling

Hannon  
Carthage

## 11.6 PHOTOGRAPHY -- BLACK & WHITE

- \* A Rusty Harris
- \* B Richard Fowler
- \* C Amber Fowler
- \* D Jason Stephens
- \* E Kelly Shilling

Carthage  
Carthage  
Carthage  
Calvary Fellowship  
Carthage

## 11.7 PHOTOGRAPHY -- COLOR

- \* A Lukas Mawhirter
- \* B Cody Turner
- \* C Astin Williams
- \* D Jason Stephens
- \* E Kelly Shilling

Beacon  
Carthage  
Carthage  
Calvary Fellowship  
Carthage

\* Denotes winner who earned a 1 rating at State Competition and will represent Missouri at the National Youth Conference in July.

68 WINNERS FROM 16 CHURCHES



# WINNERS AND WORKERS

*Editor's Note: These photos do not show all the winners of the competition. They do show some of the competitors and workers who made the competition possible.*









# **All Boards Meeting - Preacher/Layman's Retreat**

## **September 19 & 20, 1994**

### **Youth Camp, Niangua**

#### **Monday, September 19, 1994**

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. .... Fun and Fellowship  
**Golf Tournament - Golf Course in Marshfield**  
Miniature Golf, Ping Pong, Horse Shoe Pitching - Youth Camp

5:00 p.m. .... Evening Meal

6:00 p.m. .... Message from the Moderator  
Rev. Gary Fry

6:45 - 7:30 p.m. .... The Pastor's Personal Life  
Rev. Don Walker

7:30 p.m. .... Boards Meet

9:30 p.m. .... Refreshments

#### **Tuesday, September 20, 1994**

8:00 a.m. .... Breakfast

9:00 - 9:30 a.m. .... Devotion  
Rev. Ken Dodson

9:30 - 10:30 a.m. .... The Pastor's Personal Life  
Rev. Don Walker

Break

10:45 - 11:30 a.m. .... Summary and Coordinating State Activities

Dismiss

11:30 a.m. .... Lunch

*There will be time given for questions and comments on the subjects that are presented.*

## **GUIDELINES FOR GOLF TOURNAMENT**

2 Man Scramble

3 Trophies will be awarded for the tournament:

A trophy each to first place finishers

A trophy each to second place finishers

A trophy for the ball closest to the hole off the tee on #7, par 3

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## **Registration For Golf Tournament**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Each participant will pay his own green fee.

Dale Skiles will be in charge of the Golf Tournament.

*Mail the registration form to:*

**Dale Skiles, 4534 McCullough, Springfield, MO 65804**

The other activities -- miniature golf, horse shoes, pingpong -- will not be organized.

Those who want to play may play when they want to.



# 1994 MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION MEETING





# Taken by Surprise

(The following article comes from Charolette Tallent's Fall/Winter 93-94 mission newsletter, "Charolette's Chronicle.")

At one time or another, you and I have been either a participant or a spectator to a surprise which caught us completely unaware. Some come as bundles of joy and laughter while others bring their pain and heartache. Since the start of this year's university studies, I've been left speechless as each week is a miracle in progress. There aren't enough adjectives to describe the overwhelming blessings which have *"taken me by surprise."*

I'm reminded weekly that these "unexpected" surprises are from God and God alone. Ephesians 3:20a says best to whom all the tribute lies, *"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us..."* Allow me a few moments to give you the full picture. . . .

October 5 marked the official beginning of the year's activities. That first night always finds me a bit apprehensive since I never know how many, how few, or just who will cross my threshold. Who would have thought possible, though, that 21 students would show up! And that they would all be girls. (That was a first!) I remember Julie asking if this had been advertised as "a girl's study."

Equally incredulous was the presence of 11 Christians that first evening. Excitement definitely filled the air! Another amazing thing has been that almost every week one (or more) of the Christian students has brought someone new with them. Midway into the first semester, it became normal to average 24-26. Another first.

Hold onto your hats because there are more surprises in store for you! When each academic year begins, I outline my hopes and prayers for what I'd like the Lord to do (i.e., the types of studies which will best meet the needs of the Tuesday group, the studies which will minister to the Christian students at our bi-monthly Koinonia meetings, and prayer goals for the number of salvations). This year's salvation hopes were set at two.

Just three weeks after the studies began, Pam, an American who is an English teacher at a local junior high, accepted Christ as Savior. We were now a strong army of a dozen Christians praying together for the salvation of our newfound friends who, for some, my place was becoming a "homey" place to get away from the dorms.

On December 12, Sieglinde, a German student doing an internship with a biochemical company, made her life-changing decision when she asked Christ into her life. At the same time Sieglinde made her decision, I could tell others were asking themselves, "Why all the fuss and need to have this personal relationship with Jesus Christ?" As we became keenly aware of the Holy Spirit's working in their lives, the Christian students and myself began to pray more fervently that others would take the same step of faith as Pam and Sieglinde.

During the second week of the Christmas break, six students (which included three Christians) were off discovering the bohemian life in Prague, Czechoslovakia. Two admitted to their friends that they were puzzled, confused, and searching to know more about this "personal relationship" thing with Jesus Christ.

One day while walking around a Prague park, Mony opened her heart to Kim about the questions she had in regards to all she was hearing and learning on Tuesday evening. With sincerity and honesty, Kim shared what her faith in Christ means to her, empha-

sizing that it was the most important decision she ever made and one she would never regret. Returning to Nantes, Mony now had a lot to consider as she was now aware of the choice which lay before her.

At the January 11 study, three students shared the difference knowing Christ as Savior and Friend has made in their lives. I've never seen such conviction wash over somebody as it did Mony. In the quiet of her room during the wee hours of January 12, Mony changed residence from the land of the dark and lost to the arms of the Savior.

Little did we know that the Lord had still other "surprises" in store for us that week. Heidi, who is Swiss and has been a nanny in a French family since July 1993, called saying she had a problem, "Can a child accept Christ as Savior?" (*I must tell you that Heidi has only been a Christian for two years but what an evangelist she is.*) On January 14, she had the blessing of leading five-year-old Thibaud to ask Jesus into his heart.

Though this letter was finished last week, the chapter would not be complete without sharing with you about Soaud, a Muslim Moroccan. Last night (Feb. 1) was the first time she was able to attend the study (she commutes to Nantes from Angers, an hour from Nantes, for her studies), and the first time I met her. I knew of her from Mika, a Japanese Christian who is a law professor in Osaka and is studying law at the Nantes University this year. Mika has been faithfully sharing Christ with Souad, and we have been praying for her.

As she and I chatted, I was again *"taken by surprise"* when she told me that, a few days ago, she asked Christ to come into her life. I know she must have thought that my understanding of French was limited when I asked her twice if I understood her to say that she had or that she wanted to know how to accept Christ as Savior because Mika understood the latter. The look of astonishment on Mika's face when she heard the news was priceless. Mika's words underscored what we all have been feeling, "Charolette, how much more is God going to do?"

One more unbelievable surprise from my heart of *"O, you of little faith."* Since January 11, attendance has broken all records . . . 26, 28, 30, AND then last night (Feb. 1) there were 31 (four new students with six regulars absent)!!! There have also been 15 new students in the last four weeks. At least three others have promised their friends they may soon come for a visit. Two girls told their friends, "We may go along with you 'just to see' what all the fuss is about these Tuesday studies." All I can say is that nothing, literally nothing, will surprise me now!

Two more postscripts and I'll calm down. . . . You might like to know from which corners of the world the students hail. Sometimes I feel like 11, avenue Jacques Brel is a branch of the United Nations. They come from France, Germany, England, Ireland, Scotland, Switzerland, Canada, USA, Kenya, Japan, and Brazil. And, oh yes, there are now some guys who attend.

Secondly, I'm humbled that the Lord is allowing me to be a part of what's taking place. I praise Him that my faith, and that of the Christian students, is being stretched to believe that *"with God all things are possible,"* and I am being reminded that, when I least expect it, the Holy Spirit is at work in the secret places of the students' hearts.



# Financial Information

MAY 1994

## COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

18.50% Mo. State Home Missions Board	\$5,810.30
17.50% Executive Office	5,496.23
3.50% General Fund	1,099.24
8.50% Youth Camp Bd.	2,669.60
2.50% Youth Ministries Bd.	785.18
2.50% C.E. Board	785.18
2.50% Sr. Adult Ministries Board	785.18
9.00% Mo. State Retirement Program	2,826.63
30.50% Natl. Ministries, Hillsdale & Calif. Christian College	9,579.15
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 (\$95.79 included in \$9,579.15)	
5.00% Mo. State Conference Center Fund	1,570.35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$31,407.04</b>

"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 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%.

MAY 1994

## COOPERATIVE

Belton	\$ 337.40
Bethel - El Dorado Spgs.	55.89
Bethel - Festus	294.70
Black Oak	266.40
Bourbon	67.34
Cabool	314.30
Calvary Chapel	288.29
Cape Girardeau	655.53
Carthage	195.00
Columbia	85.00
Cope	42.00
Cope	36.00
Copper Mines	265.90
Cross Roads - Rich.	167.00
Crossroads - Wentz	333.00
Cuba	457.30
DeSoto 1st	860.00
Eastern Gate	282.55
Faith & Hope - Aurora	78.20
Faith & Hope - Willow Spgs.	41.96
Faith - Oak Grove	297.96
Farmington	1,907.54
Fordland	414.34
Fourth	260.00
Fredericktown 1st	330.00
Freeman Chapel	234.20
Grant Avenue	884.68
Grant Avenue	950.79
Hannon	446.31
Happy Home - Ava	99.58
Harmony - Parkville	475.00
Hartville	508.59
Hopewell - Tunas	122.00
Houston	336.47
Hurryville	364.10
Jones Creek Road	210.73
Joplin 1st	448.07
Joplin 1st	471.69
Koshkonong	137.12
Lebanon 1st	551.64
Liberty - Phillipsburg	218.00
Lone Star	51.20
Marshfield	246.56
Merls Chapel	173.00
Mill Creek	230.26
Mill La Motte	40.63
Monett 1st	670.27

Mountain Grove 1st	1,191.92
Mt. Pisgah - Cabool	219.00
Mt. Zion - Gower	58.60
New Harmony	20.31
New Life - Licking	362.27
New Rock Springs	117.00
New Rock Springs	130.00
North Five	81.09
Number One	36.81
O'Fallon	581.59
Oak Hill - Fred.	86.67
Oak Hill Union	523.58
Overland	114.00
Ozark	322.14
Ozark	404.34
Park Hills 1st	558.86
Parkview	416.04
Pleasant Hill - Thayer	53.25
Pleasant Home	174.09
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana	89.00
Potosi 1st	103.63
Riverview - Ia.	581.91
Rock Chapel	400.62
Rolla	79.91
Rolla	71.29
Royal Oak	116.00
Seymour	92.00
Smyrna	155.00
South Fremont	150.00
South Fremont	75.00
South Fremont	250.00
Springfield 1st	766.19
Stockton	96.88
Terrill Road	200.00
Thayer	857.00
Trinity	1,004.24
Tyrone	60.00
Union Grove	178.00
Union Light	113.00
United	799.13
United - West Plains	884.07
Unity	345.13
Verdella	375.33
Victory - Alton	155.72
Victory - KC	277.04
Victory Hill	148.00
Waynesville	272.47
West Plains 1st	490.00
Willow Spgs. - Mtn. Grove	194.98
Wolf Creek	369.45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$31,407.04</b>

## STATE HOME MISSIONS

DeSoto 1st	\$ 50.00
Eastern Gate	20.00
Faith & Hope - Aurora	47.69
Farmington	20.00
Fordland	3.00
Grant Avenue	292.56
Grant Avenue	109.08
Hannon	223.16
L. Wormington	30.00
L. Wormington	30.00
Lebanon 1st	10.00
Lebanon Bible & Book	190.00
Macedonia	1,000.00
Marshfield	24.65
Mountain Grove 1st	20.00
O'Fallon	63.50
Oak Hill - Union	26.00
Ozark	10.00
Ozark	10.00
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana	25.00
Richwoods	27.50
Rock Chapel	132.70
South Fremont	5.00
Southeast Assoc.	25.00
Thayer	52.50
Trinity	145.00
Union Light	56.00
United	65.00
Victory - KC	5.00
West Plains 1st	5.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,723.34</b>

## FOREIGN MISSIONS

Bethel - Festus	\$ 71.00
Faith & Hope - Aurora	47.69
Hartville	101.72
United	65.00
O'Fallon	209.13
Carthage	104.00
Hannon	1,025.81
Grant Avenue	475.44

Grant Ave. Women's SS	25.00
Grant Ave. Prayer Part	28.00
Union Mission	140.90
Niangua	11.00
S. Hart	20.00
D. Akeman	10.00
Houston	136.00
Blue Springs	125.00
F. Green	35.00
Leadington	35.00
Freeman Chapel	360.00
Joplin 1st	20.00
Calvary Chapel	105.00
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana	45.00
Merls Chapel	200.00
South Fremont	49.00
Richwoods	47.50
Faith & Hope - Willow Spgs.	125.00
West Plains 1st	226.50
Lebanon 1st	95.00
Eastern Gate	156.50
Verdella	640.34
Mountain Grove 1st	65.00
Thayer	187.50
DeSoto 1st	850.00
Friends & Co. (De Soto)	10.00
M/M K. Minor (De Soto)	10.00
B. Thebeau	15.00
Niangua	13.00
South Fremont	5.00
Bethel - Festus	105.75
Columbia	15.00
New Harmony	101.61
Rock Chapel	39.15
Oak Grove - Cabool	65.00
Parkview Mission Gr.	60.00
Calvary Fellowship	701.64
Fordland	212.00
Niangua	12.00
Greenfield	180.00
Oak Grove - Norwood	95.56
Calvary Chapel	187.00
Pleasant Home	78.20
Oak Hill - Union	21.50
Marshfield	45.00
Mt. Pisgah - Cabool	100.00
Trinity	581.69
Faith - Oak Grove	30.00
Waynesville	25.00
Fourth	60.00
New Home - Hartville	272.00
Union Light	135.00
Monett 1st	852.00
Parkview	530.61
Grant Avenue	461.16
Grant Ave. Women's SS	25.00
Grant Ave. Prayer Part	27.50
Niangua	10.00
Park Hills 1st	310.56
Victory - KC	170.00
Heartland - Kansas	150.00
South Fremont	84.00
Unity	40.00
Farmington	939.80
Viburnum	124.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,738.76</b>

## NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Bethel - Festus	\$ 20.00
Buffalo 1st	50.00
Calvary Fellowship	5.00
Carthage	56.00
Cave Spgs. Assoc.	4,568.50
Columbia	10.00
DeSoto 1st	150.00
DeSoto Chil. Church	40.00
Eastern Gate	10.00
F. Rogers (DeSoto)	10.00
Faith & Hope - Willow Spgs.	25.00
Farmington	16.00
Fordland	15.00
Fourth	40.00
Grant Avenue	45.00
Grant Avenue	106.00
Hannon	49.63
J.W. Rader	20.00
Leadington	20.00
Lebanon 1st	10.00
Macedonia	1,000.00
Mountain Grove 1st	25.00
Mt. Pisgah - Cabool	50.00
New Harmony	101.61
New Home - Hartville	20.00
New Life - Licking	105.00

O'Fallon	63.50
Oak Grove - Norwood	47.78
Oak Hill - Union	23.00
Park Hills 1st	75.89
Parkview	13.00
Parkview Mission Gr.	10.00
Pleasant Home	10.00
Richwoods	45.00
Rock Chapel	45.00
S. Hart	10.00
South Fremont	10.00
Thayer	117.50
Trinity	40.00
Union Light	35.00
Verdella	20.00
Viburnum	44.00
Victory - KC	15.00
Waynesville	25.00
West Plains 1st	65.00
Wolf Creek	32.16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,314.57</b>

## YOUTH CAMP

Ozark	\$ 10.00
Ozark	10.00
Hartville	10.00
Hannon	
(\$500.00 to men's bathhouse)	515.00
Clifton (men's bathhouse)	150.00
Willow Spgs. - Mtn. Grove	10.00
South Fremont	
(men's bathhouse)	200.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	10.00
Thayer	37.50
DeSoto	70.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
Calvary Fellowship	25.00
O'Fallon 1st - 1st-3rd CTS Group	
(men's bathhouse)	20.00
Marshfield (men's bathhouse)	89.30
Mt. Pisgah - Cabool	10.00
Lebanon Bible & Book	85.00
Trinity - Bridgeton	14.00
Bethel - Northview	40.00
Buffalo 1st	50.00
New Home - Hartville	10.00
Park Hills 1st	19.34
New Rock Springs	10.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,405.14</b>

## FWBBC

Thayer	\$ 37.50
DeSoto	35.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
Farmington	133.33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$215.83</b>

## REV. JOHN MCCLURE

Thayer	\$ 15.00
Monett	55.00
Farmington	150.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$220.00</b>

## HOME FOR CHILDREN - TN

DeSoto	\$ 50.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
Unity - Lebanon	10.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$70.00</b>

## HILLSDALE FWB COLLEGE

Have A Heart For Hillsdale	
Hannon	\$ 50.00
Eastern Gate	822.47
1st Quarterly Meeting	
(Mission Assoc.)	500.00
Grant Avenue	6.00
Thayer	42.50
1st - Kirksville	137.00
Eastern Gate	56.50
Oak Hill - Union	19.00
Grant Avenue	6.00
Victory - KC	50.19
Farmington	141.66
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,831.32</b>

## NATIONAL ASSOC. OF FWB

Calvary Fellowship	\$ 26.00
Victory - KC (Victory Campaign)	25.19
O'Fallon 1st (Victory Campaign)	300.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$351.19</b>

## WORLD RELIEF

Victory - KC	\$15.00
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## CALIF. CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Farmington	\$25.00
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## Sunday School Averages December 1993 - May 1994

CHURCHES	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
Belton	65	66	65	66	64	56
Bethel - Festus	55	53	67	66	64	
Calvary Chapel	71	71	78		81	73
Calvary Fellowship	218	236	242	337		
Cape Girardeau		75	99	132	91	
Central	69	69				
Cuba	102	112	114	124	120	115
DeSoto	183	172	187	200	184	178
Farmington	370	339	367	408	387	351
Hannon	79	81	78	83	81	83
Harmony		66	72	81	72	60
Hartville	98	97	93		101	
Hopewell	33	33	33	33	33	29
Houston	51	51	52	59	61	51
Jones Creek	12	13		13	18	13
Kirksville	28	24	28			
Lebanon First	111	96	115	118	115	111
Mill Creek		51	51	51	55	46
Monett		110	110	110		
Myrtle	27	26	27	26	27	32
Ozark	49	42	48	50	59	50
Park Hills First	131	126	130	141	134	136
Parkview	48	46	44	42		41
Richwoods	32	32	35			
Rock Chapel	69	63	66	77		67
Springfield First	108	101	105	123	102	105
Thayer	125	117	126	146	132	126
United, West Plains	220	199	228	203	206	
Unity	39	35	39	44	37	
Verdella	81	69	72	73	75	78
Willow Springs	62	49	65	61	72	66

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.

## Severe Storm Damages Ipiranga Church in Brazil

On Saturday, May 14, a severe windstorm with large hailstones, some weighing as much as four pounds, hit Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, and blew the roof off the Ipiranga mission church. People who were attending a service in the church realized the wind was dangerously high, so they moved outside to pray. As a result, there were no injuries when the roof was blown off. At a nearby Baptist church a five-year-old was killed when the storm struck and the roof caved in. Electricity went off all over the city, and much damage was done to businesses. Following the storm, the governor of the state visited the city to view the damage.

The Ipiranga work was started by Bobby and Geneva Poole as an outreach of the First Church in Ribeirao Preto. Missionaries Curt and Mary Holland are working in Ribeirao at the Second Church and in the Bible Institute while the Pooles are on furlough.

The people hope to get a new roof up quickly so the inside of the church will not suffer damage from rain. By faith, the foreign missions office has sent \$500 toward the rebuilding of the roof. Any offering to help with this need will be appreciated and should be designated to the *Foreign Missions Emergency Fund -- Ipiranga Roof*.

## A Tribute . . .

continued from page 5

Apparently Paul felt that the husband needed detailed instructions, such as loving his wife as Christ loved the church. Christ loved the church so intensely that He completely gave Himself for it. Also, Paul teaches the husband to nourish, protect, and cherish his wife, loving and treating her as part of himself.

A man named Elliot, whose wife suffered mental illness, attended the Free Will Baptist church that my wife, Louise, and I pastored in New Hampshire. Some said Elliot's wife understood the equivalent of a 2-year-old child. I was impressed by Elliot's love, patience, and unflinching care for his wife, always seeming proud of her, both as he remembered her before her illness and afterward. To me he wonderfully illustrated Paul's teaching regarding the husband's responsibility toward his wife. In addition, Paul also charged the wife to lovingly, respectfully, and faithfully respond to such a husband's tender love.

While growing up at home, an early morning experience (just as the eastern sky began to lighten) included a generous farm breakfast before we left the warmth of our home to do the farm work. When Mother finished eating, she would push her chair back from the table, and step to the refrigerator, on top of which she kept her Bible and Sunday school book. After reading aloud the daily Bible reading and the editor's commentary for the day, she and Daddy would hold hands and pray (including any others at the kitchen table). When I left home to attend college, I knew my name would be called in prayer each day. Now, 40 years later, when I visit Daddy and Mother, the exact scenario unfolds!

Thanks, Dad and Mother, for giving me such a rich heritage.



## Welcome

Rev. Lynn Davenport is the new associate pastor at Calvary Fellowship church in Fenton, MO. Lynn is a native of North Carolina and a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College. He and his wife, Pamela, have two children, Kreston and Mackenzie. We are glad to welcome this fine family to Missouri.

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