

THE  
FREE WILL BAPTIST  
**GEM**

Volume 64, No. 12, December 1994

*"Wise men still seek him!"*







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## Cuba Church Burns Mortgage



Mrs. Pegge Martin Presents Paid Mortgage



Burning the Mortgage  
Pastor Dablemont, Richard Dildine, Cecil Brown, Ed Fields



Pastor & Mrs. Rick Dablemont

Excitement, joy, and thanksgiving were predominant emotions prevailing at the Cuba Free Will Baptist Church on Sunday, October 23. It was a special day for the church as the people celebrated being debt free by burning the mortgage.

The morning service was opened with praise choruses, prayer, and an enthusiastic welcome from Pastor Rick Dablemont. He said that it was under the blessings of God that the church had arrived at this hour, and through sacrifice and dedication the indebtedness had been paid.

The trustees — Richard Dildine, Cecil Brown, and Ed Fields — joined the Pastor at the front of the church where Mrs. Pegge Martin, Vice President of People's Bank, presented the trustees with the paid mortgage. She said that it had been a joy to work with the church.

Rev. Ed Fields responded by saying, "We rejoice with our congregation on this day . . . It is through the dedication and loyalty of a good and faithful congregation that the debt on this church has been paid. We believe that your love for God and your love for one another and your generosity are well-pleasing to our Heavenly Father. With gratitude and thankfulness in our hearts, we give praise to God. Today is a day of rejoicing and marks the beginning of larger service for this church as we labor together for the glory of God." Brother Fields then read Psalms 150 as Brother Dildine and Brother Brown burned the mortgage.

Rev. Nathan Ruble was introduced, and he commended the church on their faithful stewardship. He said that they have proven

God's promises by their consistent giving, both locally and world wide.

Following more good singing, Pastor Dablemont preached an inspiring message entitled "The Successful Church." The morning celebration was concluded with a delicious fellowship dinner.



## Mt. Pisgah Free Will Baptist Church

by Lloyd and Margaret Walls

Located six miles northeast of Cabool, Missouri, on M Highway, Mt. Pisgah Free Will Baptist Church was organized January 8, 1928, by Reverend G. W. Scott, assisted by Rev. J. H. Plunk and Deacon Mabes, all of Mountain Grove. There were five charter members: Howard G. and Pearl Barr; Tom and Rachel Curry; and Elbert Colson. G. W. Scott served as the first pastor.

The congregation worshipped in the old Peacock schoolhouse for the first few years but, as the attendance grew rapidly, plans were made to build a church building. Because this was during the Depression, progress was slow. However, with all the work donated, a cornerstone was set in June of 1933, and a dedication service was held in July of 1938.

The small building underwent several changes over the years. The sanctuary was enlarged and a classroom added in 1948, and two more classrooms were added in 1951. A larger sanctuary was built in 1972; then two bathrooms, a nursery, and entrance were added in 1986 -- as well as air conditioning! Two years later, a 27' x 34' fellowship hall / kitchen was built on the east side of the building; then, in 1993, a 38' x 78' addition (which included a much larger sanctuary, baptistry, and bathrooms) replaced part of the original building. The old sanctuary was divided into classrooms. The church also has a cemetery on the north side of the church building.

Many ministers have pastored the church: G. W. Scott, Levi Koch, Ocie Allen, Mose Johnson, Albert Brook, Wesley Crane, Neal Moore, Archie Hogue, Homer Smith, Fred Wynn, Ezra Butts, Billy Price, Morris Akers, Danny Douglas, Hubert Darter, and Keith Reese, who currently pastors Mt. Pisgah.

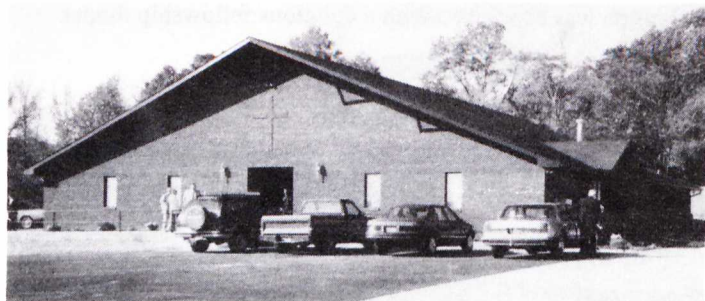
Trustees have included Howard Barr (1929), Tom Curry (1929), James Sesler (1929), James Odom (1931), Ona Mitchell (1941), and Luther Curry (1958). Current trustees are Lloyd Walls (1948), Ralph Odom and Neil Hamilton (both since 1978). Deacons are Neil Hamilton (1960), Bob Atkison (1979), and Paul Wade (1987).

There have been three church clerks: Rachel Curry (1928), Luther Curry (1938), and Lloyd Walls (since 1941). Carl Ice has served as treasurer since 1978.

The average attendance has been near 70 the past several years. After 66 years, this country church still enjoys God's richest blessings.



## Cape Girardeau Dedicates a New Educational Building



Willie O'Howell Educational Building

Sunday, October 30, was "Friend Day" and "Dedication Day" at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Cape Girardeau. Two hundred fifty-five people gathered at 10:00 a.m. for a special Sunday School hour. A musical concert was presented by two singing groups, One Accord and the Calvarymen. The time was also used to give special recognition to those who brought the most friends to Sunday School. The person winning the honors had brought 33 friends to church with her.

Two hundred sixty-seven people attended the morning worship service to hear the Calvarymen Quartet sing and Pastor Wes Rider proclaim the Word of God. Brother Rider delivered a good sermon entitled "Friends." Two people united with the Church during the invitation.



New Fellowship Hall

Lunch was served in the new fellowship hall. The Educational building contains a large fellowship hall, kitchen, bathrooms, and eight large classrooms. The building is beautifully done inside and out.

The afternoon dedication service was well attended and the people were warmly welcomed by Pastor Rider. He said that the new educational building had been three years in the planning and building and that it could not have been built without the labor, the time, and the money of the congregation. He then proceeded to give special recognition to a number of people. Sister Letha

Spenser, a charter member, was presented a plaque to honor her. Brother and Sister Ed O'Howell were presented a gift in recognition of Brother O'Howell's contribution of his labor as the General Contractor.

Sister Mattie O'Howell was presented a gift in memory of her husband, Willie O'Howell. Brother Rider said that Willie O'Howell loved his family, his church, and his pastor. He had a heart for Sunday



Mrs. Mattie O'Howell  
& Pastor Rider

School and often talked about the need for more educational space and worked to that end. Therefore, the church has named their new building the Willie O'Howell Educational Building.

Rev. Nathan Ruble delivered the dedication message. He commended the church on their local and national vision. He stated that the church had built a new building because of its vision of reaching the community, and the church gave to state and national ministries because of its vision of reaching the world.

Following the message, Pastor Rider led in the act of dedication. Rev. Roger Hogan, a former pastor of the church, led in the congregational response and dedication prayer.



Pastor & Mrs. Rider

## Faith Church Receives New Communion Table

by Sandra Starns

Faith Free Will Baptist Church of Lemay recently voted to purchase a new communion table. This was in memory of Bertha Staples, a beloved member of Faith Church who went home to be with the Lord last July.

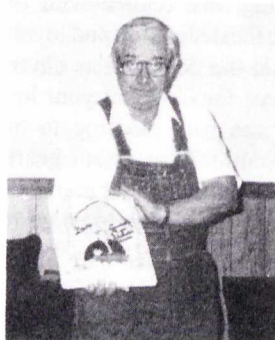
Church members Lucille Garrison, Dottye McGavern, and Betty Davidson found the communion table, which was purchased the same day it was voted on. Sister Garrison, a charter member of Faith, donated a plaque for the table in honor of her mother, Phobe Garrison. The plaque read "This Do in Remembrance of Me."

Although saddened by the loss of Sister Staples, Faith is thankful for the beautiful table which sits behind the altar, inviting all in the church to take communion in honor of the Lord.

## Special Day at Niangua

by Mickey Cummins

Old-Fashioned Day and Pastor Appreciation Day combined to make a very special day at the Niangua Free Will Baptist Church. Pastor Leon Jones was honored with a cake as well as a shirt and tie. A fellowship meal was served, followed by an afternoon of special singing.



Pastor Leon Jones Showing His Pastor Appreciation Day Gifts





Pastor Vernon Maggart Presenting Checks to the Pinkertons

## Northwest Churches Meet Challenge

by Thelma Sample

*"And how shall they preach, except they be sent. . . ?"*  
Romans 10:15

The Northwest Association of Missouri's Free Will Baptists is made up of two rural churches: Freeman Chapel of Stewartville and Mount Zion of Gower. These two churches share one pastor, Reverend Vernon Maggart, so when the churches were challenged to raise \$3,000.00 for a missions project, it may have seemed impossible to many.

On Sunday, September 11, Rev. Maggart arrived at each church carrying a "shocking pink" poster which read "BE 1 OF 30 TO GIVE \$100." Under the writing was a map of the United States with an arrow marking where missionaries Jerry and Carol Pinkerton were currently located as well as a map of Africa showing where they were wanting to return. If this challenge of \$3000 could be met, the Pinkertons' return passage to the Ivory Coast would be assured.

Three weeks later, on October 2, Jerry Pinkerton preached the 9:00 service at Mt. Zion and the 11:00 service at Freeman Chapel. Each church received a love offering, then the time came to see if the challenge had been met. When both offerings were counted, they did not total \$3000 but instead surpassed the target amount by totaling \$4,412!!! Praise the Lord!

The two churches joined at 12:30 at Freeman Chapel to enjoy a fellowship dinner. In honor of Carol Pinkerton's October 6th birthday, "Happy Birthday" was sung and a cake was presented to her as well as a table full of gifts. These gifts were things Carol had said she'd like to have but could live without: sugar-free drinks, 35 mm film, gum, seasonings, jelly beans, crayons, etc. Carol stressed, though, that prayers are a "definite 'must-have'."

Following dinner, the churches were shown a video of the Pinkertons' work in Africa and had an opportunity to ask questions. The day ended with the congregation extending a hand of fellowship and God's blessings to the Pinkertons as they return to Africa.

## Ozark Mission News

Missionary Pastor Gary Mitchener reports October as another good month for the work in Ozark with one teen saved and baptized and several other prayers answered. There are between fifteen and twenty teens attending and involved in service as well as a teen choir. Several adults are also involving themselves in ministry.

In addition to the 64 average for Sunday School, Ozark averaged 80 in morning worship, 53 in evening worship, and 54 on

Wednesday evening for the month of October. Pastor Mitchener expresses Ozark's gratefulness for the prayers and financial support, and he stresses prayer is still the church's greatest need.

Another need of the church is to pay off their property. Anyone desiring to give to this specific need can send funds through the State Office and designate those funds to "Ozark Building."

Reverend Mitchener extends a personal note of appreciation: "Thank you for personally helping us establish a Free Will Baptist Church in Ozark and helping change lives for our Lord Jesus Christ."

## Wentzville Mission Helps a Mission

The Crossroads Church of Wentzville held an Old-Fashioned Sunday on October 2nd. During the afternoon, they enjoyed a "singspiration." A pie and cake auction, sponsored by the women's auxiliary, highlighted the afternoon. The total amount raised was \$545 with 10% going to WNAC, and the remainder going to home

missionary Bob Lewis in Colorado.

Pictured are auctioneers Art Cook, Bert Schlichtemier, and Les Kauble. In the midst of them stands Pastor Jim Mertz holding the prize pie, a delicious coconut cream that was purchased for \$112.

Your prayers and support have been deeply appreciated through the years and are needed at this time more than ever. Lord willing, the Wentzville mission is planning to go self-supporting in 1995.



## "Patch the Pirate Club" at Leadington

The "Patch the Pirate Club" meets each Wednesday evening at the Leadington Free Will Baptist Church. They do daily devotions and, during their weekly meeting, have a Bible study. They also practice skits and songs, then present a program periodically to the church on Sunday evenings.



## Two Stockton Members Home to Glory

The State Home Mission work in Stockton recently lost two faithful members to death. Brother JOHN BOUGH passed away October 6th at the hospital in Bolivar following some lengthy health problems. John served as a deacon in the church as well as a dear friend and cherished advisor to its people.

There was a period of time when the church doors were closed, yet John saw to it that nothing was neglected: the electricity and water remained on, and the lawn was cared for. When Reverend Bill Ragsdale assumed the mission work, John supported him, opened his home to the Ragsdales, and treated them as family – as well as treated them to many good meals which resulted from his fishing skills.

A long-time part of the Central Western Association, John was involved in helping start the youth camp. No task was too big or too small; one could count on John's help and support.

Eight short days after his passing, John Bough's younger sister, MARY CROSS, lay down to rest and awoke in the presence of the Lord. Like her brother, Mary was a faithful worker in the church. She served as program chairman for Stockton's Ladies' Auxiliary and encouraged support for missions.

Mary's talents included furnishing food for church dinners and ill or grieving friends. She was an encouragement to any who needed it as well as an avid gardener – both food and flowers. Mary took an interest in the church's flower beds, taking care of them until her health no longer allowed. At this time, she bought the flowers and supervised the Ragsdales' daughter, Sarah, at putting in the flowers.

Stockton requests prayer that the Lord will send workers to stand in the large gaps left by the passing of two faithful workers and friends.

## Vacancy?

by Waynelle Scott

NO VACANCY – the neon lights flashed off and on. It seemed to be the trend of the night. The family was tired. Their Christmas holiday was over, and they were on their way home. They had been traveling all day; now it was time to stop to rest their weary bodies, and there was no room to be found!

As one of their children started to complain, Mother's voice was heard in the darkness. "No room. No room in the inn. I've been thinking about poor little Mary. She had been riding on the back of the donkey for days, and she was ready to deliver a baby! Here we are in a warm car, we are all comfortable and healthy, and we know that a good night's lodging must surely be just a few miles away."

"Mommy, why did baby Jesus have to be born in a manger?" the youngest child asked. "Why didn't God make the innkeeper give Joseph and Mary a nice room?"

"Honey," Mother responded, "God doesn't make people do anything. He gave us each a heart and a mind so that we can decide for ourselves what we will do with Jesus. Besides, the innkeeper really may not have had a better place than his stable for the baby Jesus. At least he was willing to let Mary and Joseph stay there for the night. I think they were glad to have even a stable where they could rest and the baby Jesus could be born. Don't you?"

"Oh, yes!" answered the child. Then, after a thoughtful pause, "Mommy, my Sunday school teacher said Jesus is coming back some day soon. If He needs a place to stay this time, I'll give Him my room!"

As we approach the Christmas season, it's a good time to consider: Is your sign flashing, "NO VACANCY," or does it indicate, "He can have my room!"?

*Finally In Print!!*

## SanDee Stone's Testimony

For years people have been asking SanDee Stone when she would write her autobiography and now she's done it!!

A book that "will **inspire and encourage**...an **excellent devotional book**...addresses the complex problems...a **chronicle of God's blessings**...a glimpse of what life can be when we **walk with the Lord by faith**."

(Kenneth Speakman, International Extension Manager, The Gideons International)

"A journey that will **inspire and challenge** readers to look more clearly at the unexplored possibilities in their own faith. You will not forget the **vivid images and deep sensitivity** revealed in this beautiful story."

(C. Stephen Byrum, Associate Minister, First Centenary United Methodist Church, Chattanooga, TN)



If your faith is wavering, you are impatient, facing illness, or there is simply no joy in your Christian life, this book is for you." Kenneth Speakman, The Gideons International

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Nathan & Judy Ruble



Tim, Ann &  
Katelyn Poletti



Warren & Ann  
Livingston



Dennis, Lillian, Karen  
& Kathy Jones



Bruce, Connie, Heather  
& Jeremy Myers



Tim & Tonya Cullen

Merry  
Christmas,  
Happy  
New Year

and Best Wishes  
from the State Office  
and Bookstore



# Missouri WNAC Enjoys Annual Retreat

by Rose Mertz

Over 300 Missouri women met at Stonecroft Conference Center on August 19 & 20 for a life-changing weekend. Sister Verla Pettit from Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, Tennessee, challenged the ladies with "Four Life-Changing Words." Using God's Word as well as practical life experiences, Verla shared how all need to look to the Master Teacher to conform lives according to His perfect will. The four words Verla used to challenge the ladies were COME, GO, FILLED, and FOLLOW.

Each day God places people in Christians' pathways to be reached by the Gospel, Verla reminded. She shared many examples from her own personal life and how, each day, she asks God to "show the one that will be my prospect for the day." Each who attended the retreat left with a greater desire to be used by God to reach her world.

This year's project for retreat was to establish a scholarship fund to help Free Will Baptist young ladies attend a Free Will Baptist college. Over \$1,000 was raised at the retreat. If you or your church would like to send contributions, please earmark the funds "scholarship" and mail them to our state auxiliary treasurer:

Reva Baker

c/o Thayer Free Will Baptist Church  
4th & Oak Streets  
Thayer, MO 65791

There will be more details about the scholarship in a future issue of the GEM.



Verla Pettit

*Verla Pettit had a stroke a little more than a week after returning home from the retreat. I spoke with her October 30th, and she said God has been good to her. She can walk now, has full use of her good right hand, and her mind was not affected. When Verla told her Jewish doctor that God would heal her left hand, he said God didn't do that; Verla is happy to be able to tell her doctor that she got a second opinion from God, and He said He would heal her left hand.*

*Because she has had to miss some scheduled conferences, Verla requests prayer for complete healing so she will not have to cancel anymore. Her heart's desire is to get back on the road and share His message.*

*She left me with this message to our women in Missouri: "I love all of you, and thank you for your prayers. They do make the difference." She also sounded praises to her Savior and quoted Psalms 103:1-2: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits."*

*If anyone would like to drop Verla a note or card, the address is --*

Verla Pettit  
7489 May Apple Apt. 5  
Cordova, TN 38018

## NEWS RELEASE

HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE

P.O. Box 7208, Moore, OK 73153  
(405) 794-6661

### Missouri Minister Newest Representative of Hillsdale

Jay Tilson, known for his pastoral work in St. Clair and for his service to the Missouri Free Will Baptist State Work, is now assisting Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College on the field in Missouri. Jay will assume duties as Field Coordinator immediately. He will represent the College in public relations, fund raising, and student recruitment.

Rev. Tilson will be representing the College in District Associations and local churches throughout Missouri. If you would like to contact Jay, please call 314-629-0213 or write 55 Chinkapin Lane, Lonedell, MO 63060.



# THANK YOU MISSOURI FOR YOUR 1994

## "Have a Heart for Hillsdale!"

Beacon, Kansas City  
Berkeley, First  
Bethel  
Big Creek  
Calvary Chapel, Buffalo  
Central  
Cuba  
DeSoto, First  
Eastern Gate  
Farmington, First  
Faith & Hope  
Faith, Fair Grove

Fellowship  
First Quarterly Meeting, Mission Assn.  
Fordland  
Jones Chapel  
Joplin, First  
Grace, Arnold  
Grant Avenue, Springfield  
Great Springfield Association  
Hannon  
Harmony, Kansas City  
Indian Creek Association  
Lebanon, First

New Home, Hartville  
Oak Hill - St. Clair  
Pleasant Grove  
Rolla, First  
St. Louis Assn.  
Thayer, First  
Trinity, St. Louis  
Trinity, Cabool  
West Plains, First  
Verdella  
Victory, Kansas City

*An additional thanks goes to everyone who supported the College through Coop and Designated Giving in the 1993-94 school year.*

### HAVE A HEART FOR HILLSDALE 1995

Sunday, February 26, 1995

Missouri 1995 "Have a Heart" Team:

Clarence Burton, Roger Harwell, Pam Hudson, Richard Robinson and Jay Tilson

## Colleges Name

### "Who's Who Among Students"

The 1995 edition of WHO'S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES will include the names of 12 Free Will Baptist Bible College students and 10 Hillsdale Free Will Baptist Bible College students. Listed below are the Missouri students whose names appeared:

#### Free Will Baptist Bible College:

Bill Stringer, Jr.

#### Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College:

James Coffelt

Michelle Cropper

## Monitored External Studies Program

The 1994 Fall Semester is winding down for the Monitored External Studies classes. A total of twenty students are currently enrolled in this program. The program is a joint effort by Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College and the Missouri State Association's Christian Education Board.

There are two mini-campus locations in Missouri at this time. One is located at the Free Will Baptist Church in Cuba, Missouri, and the second is located at the Victory Free Will Baptist Church in Kansas City, Missouri. A strong likelihood exists that a third site will be opened at Mountain Grove, Missouri, for the Fall 1995 semester.

Classes being offered this next semester, which will begin in mid-January 1995, are: "The Life and Writings of Paul," and "Church History I." These courses may be taken for college credit or audited. The cost of college credit is \$40.00 per hour, and the cost for auditing is \$20.00 per hour, plus textbooks and workbooks. Auditing students who complete twelve credit hours will earn a Bible Certificate, and those completing thirty credit hours will receive an Advanced Certificate.

Churches and/or Associations should consider offering a scholarship for their pastor, a young preacher, or any worthy student from their church or district association. This kind of program can be a blessing to both the students involved and to those among whom they serve.

You can begin enrollment now for the next semester, by completing the application request form below and mailing it to:

Jay Tilson  
55 Chinkapin Lane  
Lonedell, MO 63060  
(314) 629-0213

### APPLICATION FORM REQUEST

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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



## Three Kirksville Members Home with the Lord

The First Free Will Baptist Church in Kirksville recently lost three long-time members.

VELMA WELLMAN, 84, passed away October 25th at her home. The daughter of Ora Aseph and Chloe Bell Gates, Velma was born January 28, 1910, in Stahl, Missouri. She was united in marriage on December 25, 1934, to Clarence Russell Wellman. Mr. Wellman preceded her in death in 1990.

Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law: Clarence "C.O." Ora and Marie Wellman, and Richard Wesley and Judy Wellman; eight grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren.

Velma was a past Sunday School teacher and song leader for over 30 years at the Kirksville Church. She was also active in the Women's Auxiliary.



Velma Glenna Wellman

DONALD JONES, 62, passed away November 4th at the VA Hospital in Columbia. The son of Lester Charles and Myrtle Mae Garrison Jones, Don was born on May 27, 1932, in Eunice, Missouri. On February 11, 1956, he was united in marriage to Betty Griswold, who survives.



Donald Paul Jones

Serving in the United States Navy during the Korean Conflict, he completed his education and received a Purple Heart. He worked as an inspector for the aerospace industry in several states before his retirement in 1968. He had lived in Kirksville for the past eighteen years.

Don had been active in the youth programs of several Free Will Baptist churches. He was a faithful member of the church his father pastored during the church's building.

EDNA LOIS BUNTON, 68, passed away November 11th. Born February 14, 1926, at New Boston, Missouri, she was the daughter of Orville C. and Cosie Bell Overstreet Mills.

Edna was a nurse who worked in nursing homes, hospitals, and private nursing. She was a practical nurse for over thirty years.

Fourteen years ago, Edna moved to Kirksville from Winigan. As a member of the church, she was active in Women's Auxiliary.

The church will miss their faithfulness and prayerful support.



Will Harmon, Mike Walker, Lance Rogers, Brenda Rogers

## 1994 YOUTH CONFERENCE



Mark Brawley

There is a line drawn . . . One side represents life with Jesus while the other represents living as the world. Approximately 300 youth and sponsors were challenged to make a decision and "CROSS THE LINE" during the 1994 Missouri State Youth Conference. This conference is sponsored by the Youth Ministries Board and was held November 18 & 19 at Windermere Baptist Assembly.

This annual event provides a time of fellowship and learning while being entertained, and this year was no exception. Arkansas youth pastor Mark Brawley kicked off the retreat with a concert on Friday night. Saturday's events included separate sessions for the youth and workers with Mark and Arkansas pastor Will Harmon.

Following the conference, one youth who has regularly attended the previous conferences stated, "It was enjoyable! The way we were challenged to live and make decisions for Christ gave us a lot of 'homework' to do when we return to school and our non-Christian friends on Monday."



Shirts?



The Crowd





# Financial Information



## OCTOBER 1994 COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

18.50% Mo. State Home Missions Board	\$5,689.87
17.50% Executive Office	5,382.31
3.50% General Fund	1,076.46
8.50% Youth Camp Bd.	2,614.26
2.50% Youth Ministries Bd.	768.90
2.50% C.E. Board	768.90
2.50% Sr. Adult Ministries Board	768.90
9.00% Mo. State Retirement Program	2,768.04
30.50% Nat'l. Ministries, Hillsdale & Calif. Christian College	9,380.60
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 (\$93.81 included in \$9,380.60)	
5.00% Mo. State Conference Center Fund	1,537.80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,756.04</b>

"...Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!" Ps. 106:1. God has given us another good month, and He is to be praised. The faithfulness of the Pastors and Churches in Missouri make it possible for us to have part in carrying out the Great Commission. Working together, we will see the lost saved and the saints edified.

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

## OCTOBER 1994 COOPERATIVE

Allton	\$ 225.00
Bailey Chapel - Tunas	90.00
Belton	322.11
Black Oak	265.41
Blue Springs	460.00
Bourbon	62.66
Cabool	417.34
Calvary Chapel	349.23
Cape Girardeau	671.93
Carthage	220.00
Central	750.40
Clifton	84.10
Columbia	70.85
Cope	42.00
Copper Mines	246.31
Crossroads - Richland	246.31
Crossroads - Wentzville	336.00
Cuba	485.50
DeSoto	775.00
Eastern Gate	242.03
Faith & Hope - Aurora	98.70
Faith & Hope - W. Spgs.	81.85
Farmington	1,838.57
Fordland	442.54
Fourth	195.00
Fredericktown 1st	252.00
Freeman Chapel	234.64
Grace	955.00
Grant Avenue	861.00
Hannibal	120.00
Hannon	428.12
Happy Home	107.19
Happy Home	101.76
Heritage	120.00
Heritage	125.00
Hopewell - Tunas	296.00
Houston	272.94
Hurryville	374.47
Kingsway	286.29
Kirkville	142.23
Koshkonong	113.48
Leadington	369.94
Lebanon	687.55
Liberty - Phil	207.97

Lone Star	67.50
Marshfield	278.25
Merls Chapel	175.00
Merls Chapel	169.00
Mill Creek	293.66
Mine La Motte	38.57
Monett 1st	576.56
Mountain Grove 1st	1,232.72
Mt. Pisgah	218.00
Mt. Zion - Gower	62.60
Myrtle	171.06
Neosho 1st	71.25
New Harmony	18.94
New Hope - Fred	20.00
New Rock Springs	125.00
North Five	80.94
Number One - Huggins	42.18
O'Fallon 1st	577.87
Oak Hill - Fred	79.30
Oak Hill - Union	522.51
Oak Hill - Union	519.48
Overland	100.00
Ozark	466.45
Park Hills 1st	489.20
Parkview	373.17
Pleasant Hill - Thayer	63.81
Pleasant Home - Mt. Grv.	223.62
Pleasant Ridge - Urb.	90.00
Potosi 1st	105.49
Richwoods	454.00
Rock Chapel	341.57
Rolla	76.92
Royal Oak	102.00
Smyrna	150.00
Springfield 1st	763.46
St. Francois Assn.	13.50
Stockton	121.00
Thayer	763.00
Trinity - Bridgeton	905.35
Tyrone	48.00
Union Grove	187.00
Union Light - Marquand	105.00
United	1,219.20
Unity	588.00
Verdella	343.81
Victory - Alton	157.75
Victory Hill	66.82
Waynesville	280.29
West Plains 1st	773.82
Wilderness	415.00
Willow Springs - Mtn. Grv.	185.68
Wolf Creek	367.65
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,756.04</b>

## STATE HOME MISSIONS

Central	\$ 10.00
Eastern Gate	20.00
Faith & Hope - Aurora	63.05
Farmington	20.00
Fordland	10.00
Fourth	10.00
Grace	30.00
Grant Avenue	117.10
Hannon	214.06
Kirkville	16.28
L. Wormington	30.00
Lebanon	10.00
Lebanon Bible & Book	190.00
Macedonia Auxiliary	50.00
Marshfield	27.82
Mountain Grove 1st	20.00
Myrtle	45.00
New Life - Monett	187.10
New Testament	40.00
O'Fallon 1st	72.50
Ozark	10.00
Pleasant Ridge - Urb.	25.00
Rock Chapel	95.42
Southeast Assoc.	25.00
St. Francois Assn.	1,044.34
Thayer	52.50
Trinity - Bridgeton	45.00
Union Light - Marquand	56.00
United	44.12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,580.29</b>

## NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Beacon	\$ 70.00
Belton	30.00
Bethel - Festus	25.00
Buffalo 1st	50.00
Calvary Fellowship	51.59
Calvary Fellowship	77.16
Carthage	60.00

Central	57.50
Columbia	10.00
DeSoto	190.00
Eastern Gate	10.00
Faith & Hope - W. Spgs.	25.00
Farmington	30.00
Fordland	10.00
Fourth	25.00
Grace	35.00
Grant Avenue	96.00
Hannon	47.81
J.W. Rader	20.00
Leadington	20.00
Lebanon	10.00
Mountain Grove 1st	455.00
Mt. Pisgah	50.00
Myrtle	80.00
New Harmony	94.67
New Home - Hartville	20.00
New Home - Hartville	250.00
New Testament	100.00
O'Fallon 1st	72.50
Oak Grove - Norwood	50.02
Overland	4.00
Park Hills 1st	68.92
Parkview	3.00
Parkview Mission Grp.	10.00
Pleasant Home - Mtn. Grv.	5.00
R. Keith	20.00
Rock Chapel	45.00
S. Hart	20.00
St. Francois Assn.	1,842.62
St. Peters	65.00
Thayer	177.50
Trinity - Bridgeton	30.00
Union Light - Marquand	35.00
United	10.00
Verdella	25.00
Waynesville	25.00
Wolf Creek	36.35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,544.64</b>

## FOREIGN MISSIONS

Beacon	\$ 464.00
Belton	245.00
Bethel - Festus	104.00
Blue Springs	429.25
C. Thompson	25.00
Calvary Chapel	137.00
Calvary Fellowship	723.64
Calvary Fellowship	841.64
Carthage	115.00
Central	178.50
Columbia	15.00
D. Akeman	10.00
DeSoto	360.00
Eastern Gate	98.20
F. Green	35.00
Faith & Hope - Aurora	63.05
Faith & Hope - W. Spgs.	125.00
Faith - St. Louis	75.00
Farmington	409.53
Fordland	122.00
Fourth	60.00
Grace	49.50
Grant Ave. Paryer Part	19.50
Grant Ave. Women's SS	25.00
Grant Avenue	573.20
Hannon	643.12
Houston	109.00
J. Schebaum	15.00
Kirkville	26.28
Leadington	30.00
Lebanon	105.00
Lebanon 1st Jr. Church	51.00
Lebanon 1st VBS	53.27
Macedonia Auxiliary	650.00
Marshfield	45.00
Merls Chapel	200.00
Merls Chapel	200.00
Monett 1st	626.00
Mountain Grove 1st	415.00
Mt. Pisgah	100.00
Myrtle	72.00
Neosho 1st	175.00
Neosho Auxiliary	10.00
New Harmony	94.67
New Home - Hartville	172.30
New Testament	130.00
Niangua	9.00
Niangua	15.00
Niangua	7.00
Niangua	10.00
O'Fallon 1st	81.00

Oak Grove - Houston	65.00
Oak Grove - Norwood	100.04
Ozark	60.00
Park Hills 1st	195.68
Parkview	369.13
Parkview Mission Grp.	60.00
Pleasant Home - Mtn. Grv.	70.09
Pleasant Ridge - Urb.	45.00
Rock Chapel	168.75
S. Hart	40.00
St. Francois Assn.	4,239.04
St. Peters	160.00
Thayer	237.50
Trinity - Bridgeton	784.14
Union Light - Marquand	150.00
Union Mission	179.54
United	74.13
Unity	40.00
Verdella	793.82
Waynesville	25.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,204.51</b>

## MISSOURI FWB YOUTH CAMP

New Home - Hartville	\$ 10.00
Myrtle	35.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
Mountain Grove 1st	10.00
Calvary Fellowship	25.00
Lebanon Bible & Book	85.00
Hannon	15.00
DeSoto	50.00
Thayer	37.50
New Life - Monett	187.10
Ozark	10.00
Trinity - Bridgeton	14.00
Willow Spgs - Mtn. Grove	10.00
Mt. Pisgah	10.00
Calvary Fellowship	25.00
Park Hills 1st	8.85
Lebanon 1st (bathrooms for nurse's quarters)	500.00
New Rock Springs	10.00
Grace	50.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,102.45</b>

## NATIONAL ASSOC. OF FWB

Calvary Fellowship	\$52.00
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## CHILDREN'S HOME (AL)

Myrtle	\$3.00
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## HILLSDALE FWB COLLEGE

Central	\$ 36.00
Hannon	50.00
Thayer	42.50
Eastern Gate	48.20
Neosho 1st	60.00
Grant Avenue	8.00
Farmington	141.66
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$386.36</b>

## FWB BIBLE COLLEGE

Parkview Mission Group	\$ 10.00
DeSoto	35.00
Thayer	37.50
Grant Avenue	10.00
Farmington	133.33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$225.83</b>

## REV. JOHN McCCLURE

Verdella	\$ 10.00
Thayer	10.00
Monett	15.00
Grace	17.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$52.50</b>

## CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Farmington	\$25.00
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## FWB HOME FOR CHILDREN (TN)

Parkview Mission Group	\$ 27.50
DeSoto	50.00
Unity	10.00
New Life - Monett	187.09
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$274.59</b>



# The Youth Look

by Ann Poletti



**Seek and ye shall find.** Though this is the middle phrase of Matthew 7:7, it is also an important lesson learned by looking at part of the "Christmas story."

The Bible tells us of some wise men who traveled a distance in search of the Christ-child. It can be said they were wise because they were open to divine direction, but they were also learned men. They were Gentiles, and the fact that these Gentiles traveled a great distance to adore this Jewish Babe while His own people did not even seek Him out seems to be a prelude of His later rejection.

There are some modern-day lessons for our lives that we can learn from the Magi. The wise men were students of astrology. In those days, astrology and astronomy were combined under one heading. By using such a method – a star – God brought these men to Christ. The star went before them and stood over where Jesus was. This should reassure us that God will never leave one who is eagerly searching Him to grope along in the dark. As they were called and led by a star, we are called and led by His Word, works, and Spirit.

These Gentiles who traveled a great distance remind us there is no one too remote to find Him. Many in a "Christian nation" are further from Christ than some in a "heathen nation." The same is true of rich and poor. The Magi brought expensive gifts to Christ which could indicate their wealth. Jesus is often called "a friend to the poor," but Jesus is also a friend to the rich who will commit to Him (e. g. Zaccheus). It should also be noted that the gifts to the Child were representative of the givers' giving of themselves. The wise men worshipped Him on the ground of their beliefs in His royalty and future kingship, not on the basis of what He was (a baby with commonplace surroundings).

Wise men still seek Him, knowing that every true seeker will be rewarded by seeing Him. Christians are sometimes the worst advertisement for Christianity. With so many of their own lives and homes filled with conflict, discontent, and despair, it is easy to see why no one would want that. Are you a star pointing people to Christ at home? Work/school? Church? With friends? Neighbors?

Christmas will be a real Christ-Mass if we, as wise men, have followed, found, and fellowshiped. And will remember that we could never find Him had He not sought us first.

## Sunday School Averages May 1994 - October 1994

CHURCHES	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
Belton	56					
Bethel - Festus	62	60	71	67	68	70
Calvary Chapel	73	76	90	90	88	90
Calvary Fellowship	242	218	234	233	254	
Cape Girardeau	78	81	77	74	76	109
Columbia					19	17
Cuba	115	113	111	87	110	107
DeSoto	178	175	171		180	177
Farmington	351	343	332	340	348	361
Hannon	83	76	77	81	76	80
Harmony	60	59				
Hartville	91	96	80	87		85
Hazel Creek		66	70	62		
Hopewell	29	30	39	32	28	29
Houston	51	54	48	47	54	43
Jones Creek	13	15	12	12	13	13
Kirksville	33	30	35	30	32	
Lebanon First	111	107	112	117	115	115
Mill Creek	46	44	40	46	50	49
Myrtle	32	27	27	27	37	31
Oskaloosa	11	11	11	11		
Ozark	50	50	59	53	58	64
Park Hills First	136	126	127	133	136	
Parkview	41		45	49	58	51
Richwoods	23	23	24			
Rock Chapel	67	78	67	69	70	69
Springfield First	105	113	103	114	112	107
Thayer	126	115	138	123	137	139
United, West Plains	200	206	206	217	212	211
Unity			30	34	36	42
Verdella	78	67	67	70	65	70
Willow Springs	66	60	65	64	65	71

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.

## Tennessee Church to Celebrate Centennial

The New Hope Free Will Baptist Church in Joelton, Tennessee, will be celebrating their centennial homecoming on August 6, 1995. They would like to extend an invitation to all previous members, pastors, and all Bible College students who attended there while in school.

The day will be filled with various activities as they share together in worship, lunch, special singing, a history of the Lord's blessings on the church, an honoring of all the church's pastors, and sweet fellowship. Please make your plans to attend to help make this day of celebration special.

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