

# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Volume 70, No. 11, November 1999



Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in  
the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Eph. 5:20



# PUTTING GOD BACK IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE

Roy S. Moore

Circuit Judge, 16th Judicial District

## PART II

(Part I was printed in the Oct. issue)

Since 1992, Roy S. Moore has been a circuit judge for the 16th Judicial District in Etowah County, Alabama. A former deputy district attorney, he is also a Vietnam veteran who served as a captain, a company commander, and a battalion staff officer in the military police corps. He graduated from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point in 1969 and the University of Alabama School of Law in 1977.

For his achievements in the community and on the bench, Judge Moore has received awards from several prominent national organizations, including the Center for Christian Statesmanship, the Family Research Council, the American Family Association, the Declaration of Independence Foundation, the African American Family Association, and the Valley Forge Foundation. Judge Moore's seven-year battle to preserve religious freedom of expression in the courtroom and in the public arena has earned him national media attention.

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### Historical Precedent

When the federal legislature met in 1789, one of its first actions was to appoint chaplains in both houses of Congress. (Congress still recognized God by appointing and paying chaplains who open each session with a prayer—even the recent session devoted to the impeachment proceedings against President Clinton.)

On the very day that Congress approved the wording of the First Amendment, its members resolved to request of President Washington a day of public thanksgiving and prayer for the peaceful manner in which the Constitution was formed.

A month earlier, Congress passed the Northwest Ordinance,

one of the most important documents in our history. Article III of the Ordinance declared, "Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged.

Every president of the United States (with only one possible exception) has been administered the oath of office with his hand on the Bible, ending with the words "so help me God."

The Supreme Court begins every proceeding with the

ringing proclamation, "God save the United States and this Honorable Court."

Throughout our history, the executive and legislative branches have decreed national days of fasting and prayer.

Public offices and public schools close in observance of religious holidays.

United States currency bears our nation motto, "In God We Trust."

Also by law, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag affirms that we are "one nation under God." Congress would not even allow a comma to be placed after the word "nation" in order to reflect the basic idea that ours is a "nation founded on a belief in God."

It is ludicrous and illogical to believe that it is constitutionally permissible for all three branches of the federal government to acknowledge God openly and publicly on a regular basis, and yet at the same time accept the notion that the federal government can strictly prohibit the states from doing the very same thing. Have we become so ignorant of our nation's history that we have forgotten the reason for the adoption of the Bill of Rights? It was meant to restrict the federal government's power over the states, not to restrict the states from doing what the federal government can do.

It is no wonder that our present Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist observed in a 1985 dissenting opinion that "the wall of separation between church and state is a metaphor based upon bad history, a metaphor which has proved useless as a guide to judging. It should be frankly and explicitly abandoned."

Rehnquist added that "the greatest injury of the 'wall' notion is its mischievous diversion of judges from the actual intention of the drafters of the Bill of Rights." He is right. The doctrine of separation between church and state has been abused, twisted, and taken out of context in recent court decisions in order to prevent the public worship and acknowledgment of God.

### False Neutrality

The Pharisees demanded of Jesus, "Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?" He asked them to produce a coin and tell him whose image was inscribed on its face. When they replied, "Caesar's," Jesus gave his answer: "Render therefore unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's."

We have to render an awful lot to Caesar these days, but we do not and should not surrender our freedom of conscience. The state can't tell us how we ought to think or what we ought to believe.

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## GROVERTERRY HOME WITH THE LORD

**O**n September 8, 1999 Brother Grover Terry departed this life as a result of an automobile accident near Elkland, Missouri. He was born April 7, 1913. At the time of his death he was serving as pastor of the Cedar Ridge Free Will Baptist Church.

Is there any way of measuring the life of a man who loves God, loves the ministry of the Lord, and has a heart and hand that reaches out to lead the unsaved person to Christ? Brother Grover Terry was such a man.

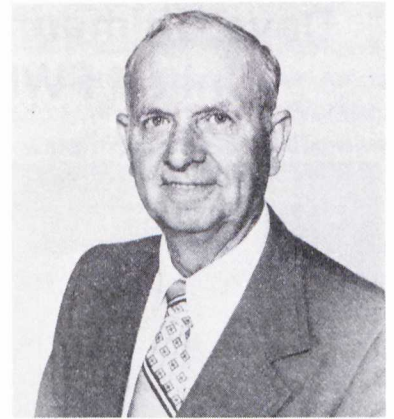
Only the Lord knows the number of people Brother Grover has led to Christ, encouraged in the Lord, and helped in time of sorrow. His ministry took him to three states in pastoral service—Missouri, Arkansas and Kansas. He preached the Word of God with power, passion and persuasiveness. He declared boldly, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation."

Brother Clarence Burton, who officiated at the memorial service stated, "As I look over this auditorium filled with people, what a reflection of love for a godly man who loved God and loved people. He touched my life as he has touched yours, and his ministry will surely live on and on."

He and his dear wife, Agnes (she preceded him in death) enjoyed fruitful ministries in these Free Will Baptist churches: Pleasant Hill, Thayer, MO; Bomds, Couch, MO; Mt. Zion, Thayer, MO; Hopewell, Tunas, MO; Lone Star, Seymour, MO; Grant Avenue, Springfield, MO; Parkview, Desloge, MO; Ballews Chapel, Grubbs, AR; Hannon, Liberal, MO; First Church, Wichita, KS; Southside, St. Louis, MO; Marshfield, Marshfield, MO; Eastern Gate, Springfield, MO; Cedar Ridge, Long Lane, MO.

Brother Grover Terry is survived by two sons, Gene Terry of Seymour and Logan Terry of St. Genevieve; three daughters, Patricia Bledsoe of Tulsa, OK, Karen Murphy of Wichita Falls, TX and Dixie Letsch of Springfield; two brothers, Ernest Terry of Arnold and Melvin Terry of Branson; two sisters, Maggie Killingsworth of Kennett and Evelyn Johnson of Alton; eighteen grandchildren, nineteen great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

May the full and rich life lived by Brother Terry encourage friends and family to live for Christ, that we may, along with him, "dwell in the house of the Lord forever and forever."



## Heavenly House Puppeteers Take First Place At National

By Linda Hall

*"The Lord will provide."* The Heavenly House Puppeteers from Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in El Dorado Springs found that out. They took their puppets to the State Competitions for the first time in May, 1999—a new and nerve-wrenching venture not only for the puppeteers, but the coaches as well. In these competitions they were blessed with First Place in their B Category, Grades 4-6, and qualified to compete in the Free Will Baptist National Youth Competition in Atlanta, Georgia. What a surprise!

They were dedicated and hard workers as they prepared their program, and had many fundraisers to earn enough money to attend, with only six weeks before they left. However, we felt if it was God's will, the funds would come in. *"The Lord Will Provide"* became our theme; and He did! With His guidance, our church families and our community, we were able to raise the necessary funds. Our puppeteers competed on Tuesday, July 20th, in the B Category and took First Place! What an exciting moment it was for all of us!

We desire your prayers for this group's ministry.



Pictured back row: Kelly Gibbs, Rachael Leonard, Timmy Spencer, and Jonathan Hall. Front row: Sarah Hall, Angel Leonard, Kyler Leonard, and Trenton Leonard. May God keep us usable for Him.



## Dave Uhlmann Honored At United FWB Church



On Sunday, June 20, Brother Dave Uhlmann was honored by the congregation and friends of the United Free Will Baptist Church, West Plains, MO.

Recognition was given to Brother Uhlmann as the Senior Deacon, and for the faithful service he and his wife, Mabel, have given to the Lord and to United Free Will Baptist Church.

It was a memorable and beautiful occasion as Dave and Mabel came into the church auditorium, followed by their family. Included in the family that day were daughters, Pat Nall and husband, Gerald of Ava and Linda Campbell of West Plains. Among the many other family members present were grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, along with friends of the family.

The chairman of the board of deacons, Norman Carte, stated in his remarks that Brother Dave Uhlmann was ordained as a Free Will Baptist deacon in 1950 at Douglas County, Missouri, and has many fine qualities, but the one word that will describe his relationship to the Lord and the church is "Faithful!" He presented a plaque, reading the words inscribed on it, "In Honor of Brother David Uhlmann—For Many Years of Loyal and Dedicated Service to Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and the United Free Will Baptist Church."

The daughters, Linda and Pat gave very moving testimonies of their parents' love, kindness and help as they were brought up in a wonderful Christian home.

For the special occasion, corsages were presented to Dave and Mabel from the church as an expression of appreciation. Special music was provided by the Barton Family. The pastor, Rev. Glenn Murray, stated "Brother Dave Uhlmann has exemplified, through his dedication to the Lord and this church, a strong love for the Lord and a commitment to give the Lord his best."

### "Glowing For Jesus"

## N. E. Missouri District WAFC

By Mona Chrisman

The ladies of the Northeast Missouri District Women Active For Christ met for their annual retreat at the Kirksville Free Will Baptist Church on September 17 and

18. The theme for the meeting this year was "Glowing For Jesus." The Kirksville ladies served a delicious banquet to 24 guests from four churches representing the district. Each guest was served individually from trays, which showed caring and the love of Christ, adding a special touch to our fellowship.

Our scripture was taken from Matthew 5:14-16. Our project was "Quarters for Missions." This offering totaling \$94.60 will be given to the FWB Children's Home in Alabama. Many people brought their quarters in symbols of light, such as lighthouses, lamps, and torches.

Our offering of \$240.00 went to our special speakers, Ken and Judy Bailey, who have been ministering at the Iriso and Adachi FWB churches in Tokyo, Japan since 1985.

Judy spoke to the ladies on Friday night regarding their victories and trials in Japan, then Ken spoke to the group on Saturday morning following a brunch served by the Kirksville ladies.

The Baileys now feel the Lord is leading them to start a new work in the Tokyo area, now that the Iriso church has become self-supporting and is lead by a Japanese pastor. They have asked prayer for wisdom as they determine exactly where God wants them to work.

We then gathered into small groups to pray for all our FWB missionaries on various fields in all parts of the world.

The four churches represented at the retreat were Moberly, Hazel Creek, Connelville and Kirksville. Each lady was blessed and encouraged to let her light shine brighter as we await the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Reggie Michael Williams

May 13, 1982 - September 5, 1999

On Thursday, September 9, 1999 funeral services were held for Reggie Michael Williams at Norwood High School Gymnasium. Reggie passed away on Sunday, September 5, 1999 at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee at the age of 17. He is the son of Rev. Zachary Kip and Tammy Renee Dugger Williams.

Reggie was saved at the age of six, and was a member of the Union Grove (Caudle) Free Will Baptist Church. He was raised in the Norwood community and was currently a senior at Norwood High School where he was an active member of the Future Farmers of America. He will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by all those who knew and loved him.

*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.*

2 Timothy 4: 7, 8



# WILLOW SPRINGS CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY



More than 178 people attended the 75th anniversary celebration of the Willow Springs Free Will Baptist Church located near Mountain Grove, Missouri. Actually, the church celebrated an anniversary, burned a mortgage, expressed their appreciation for their pastor, and spent time renewing old acquaintances and remembering the good times of the past.

The morning service was blessed with a sweet spirit, joyous singing, and spirit-filled preaching. The congregation received a warm welcome from pastor Howard Anderson and listened attentively to Diana Anderson, the pastor's wife, as she gave an emotional reading of a poem written by Ellen Middleton of the church. Rev. Nathan Ruble extended greetings from the Missouri State Association and commended the church on their involvement in state and national ministries. Then Pastor Anderson invited the trustees and deacons of the church to join him at the front of the sanctuary for the mortgage burning ceremony.

Pastor and Mrs. Anderson were surprised with a pastor appreciation gift. The church presented them with a beautiful memory quilt. Former pastor Ollie Wright delivered the morning message and the service was dismissed in prayer by Rev. Gary Fry.

Following a bountiful lunch, an afternoon of singing and testimonies were enjoyed by everyone.

## History of the Willow Springs Church

*(abbreviated from the Church History book)*

Seventy-five years ago some Christians in the Willow Springs Community saw the need for the establishment of a church—a place to worship and grow with fellow believers. Because of the burden and vision of a few in the community, efforts got underway to begin a spiritual link in the area, which progressed and grew into the establishment of an organized church.

Mrs. Charley (Nettie) Middleton approached "Uncle" Alfred Peachee about the possibility of beginning a prayer meeting in her home. After spreading the word, the attendance grew each week, and quickly the prayer meeting developed into new things—a Sunday school was organized and held in the Willow Springs Schoolhouse

during the summer months.

Brother Grover West was elected as superintendent, and among some of the teachers were Brother Amos Peterson, Mrs. Sadie Melton, and Mrs. Ollie Watson. Some of the families who were instrumental in this new undertaking were: the Bartons, Michams, the Gourleys, Wiyricks, Peachees, the Middletons and the Frys.

A three-week revival was soon held at the schoolhouse with Brother Clarence Ussery. Some sixty souls were saved as God's Spirit moved. On September 30, 1924, Elders Clarence Ussery and John Plunk with Deacon H. Malone met with the congregation at Willow Springs and officiated in the organizing of the church. Brother Clarence Ussery was elected as pastor, with Henry Wiyrick and Bert Wiyrick serving as deacons, and Flora Middleton as clerk. It was voted that services would be held the first Saturday, Saturday evening, and Sunday of each month.

By the 1930's, the congregation outgrew the little schoolhouse and it was obvious that a church building was needed. A committee was appointed and the vision quickly became a reality, as a church was erected through labor and materials donated by many people in and around the community.

In 1951, an addition was built on the north side of the original structure which included Sunday school rooms, a kitchen and a wing to the auditorium. In 1988, a new auditorium with a baptistry was erected on the site of the original auditorium, with a dedication service being held on October 30, 1988.

Due to the original vision and prayers of a few faithful believers, God blessed and is continuing to bless the Willow Springs Free Will Baptist Church. The pastors of the church have been: Clarence Ussery, Dee Royster, John Ratteree, Ruel Parker, Oliver Letterman, Fred Wynn, O. L. Allen, Curtis Wilson, Leland Horton, Tommy Carlson, Ezra Butts, Bud Hill, Steve Stidham, Gary Hutsell, Bob White, Ollie Wright, Bud Arnold, and Charles Crenshaw. The present pastor is Howard Anderson.



A holy life will produce  
the deepest impressions.  
Lighthouses don't blow on horns,  
they only shine.





## Ken Eagleton, Sr. At Home With The Lord

**K**en Eagleton, Sr. passed away from this life to be with his Lord and Savior on August 26, 1999 following a brief lung ill-

ness. Funeral services were held in Nashville on the 28th (Ken and Marvis' 45th wedding anniversary date) and he was buried in a Veteran's Cemetery on the 30th.

Ken was diagnosed in May with a condition known as pulmonary fibrosis. This condition causes an inflammation of the lung tissue and replaces it with nonfunctional scar tissue. Initially, he responded well to his medication. During the second week of August he started getting progressively worse and had to be hospitalized on the 15th. He was put on oxygen and a number of tests were run. Aggressive treatment was initiated, but his lungs did not respond. The disease progressed much quicker than was expected.

Ken and Marvis first went to the mission field (Brazil) in 1958. They were active on the field until 1990. During this period Ken was involved in ministries of church planting, discipleship, and Bible teaching. Along with Dave Franks, he cooperated in establishing our first Free Will Baptist church in Brazil, located in the city of Campinas. He was a talented Bible teacher, having used his skills and his knowledge teaching in Bible Institutes, extension courses for church leadership, Sunday School, and youth camps. He made a profound impact on the lives of many people during his ministry there.

Since 1992 Ken has been working with high school teens through a program called TEAM, taking them on mission trips to our mission fields. One hundred twenty teens have gone to ten different countries under this program which he started.

Truly, Ken and Marvis have been used of the Lord in their ministries in the United States and in many other countries around the world. Many souls have been saved, many leaders trained for the ministry, and many young people challenged to give their lives for the Lord's service.

I have one final challenge for you. Ken and Marvis' account is \$14,000 in the deficit. I want to challenge you to give generously to erase this deficit in their account. What a fine way to give a final significant tribute to one of God's faithful servants who served actively as a Free Will Baptist foreign missionary for 41 years.

## Ken and Judy Bailey

**FWB Missionaries Serving in Tokyo, Japan**

**WE'RE BACK!** We landed in St. Louis, MO, the last part of June, and have been "on the road" for most of the past few months. We were sad to leave Japan, but happy to leave the responsibility of the Iriso Kirisuto Kyokai (Iriso Christ Church) in the hands of the newly-ordained pastor, Seiji Sabuta and his wife, Yoshiko. After eleven years, we are joyful that God led the Sabutas to become our church's first national pastor. Please continue to pray for their family and ministry. We will be returning to the main island of Honshu sometime next year, and plan to work in cooperation with Pastor Sabuta in starting a new work in the Tokyo area. Pray that hearts will be prepared to receive the Gospel!

Our son, Benjamin, graduated from the Christian Academy in Japan, the first week of June. We were happy to have our married daughter, Tracey, there for the graduation activities. She was also a participant, playing her flute and singing at the ceremony. She and her husband, Jeremy, are living in Portland, Oregon, where Jeremy is a church Music Minister, piano teacher, and college student, and Tracey travels the west coast for Pier One Imports. Thank you for your prayers for them.

Ben entered Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois, the last week of August. Please pray for him, as he adjusts to living in the States, living on his own for the first time in his life, and for adjustment to college. Pray, too, for his folks, who miss him a lot!

Thanks to the wonderful folks in Missouri and the State "Show-Me" Plan, we are able to be more flexible this furlough about scheduling meetings. We are available for services in the coming months, and would be happy to visit in your area. We will also be "dropping in" on many churches for Sunday night and Wednesday night services. If you are interested in using us in any way, please contact us. We look forward to sharing our ministry with you!

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## Adopt a Share in the Show-Me Plan



# NIANGUA FWB YOUTH CAMP

## "LET'S GET STARTED!"

by Jimmy Kiser

### WE ARE EXCITED !

**B**y the time this article airs in the *Gem*, we will have already broken ground for our new multi-purpose building which will meet our needs for worship, classrooms, and sports. We hope to have the new ball field cleared and leveled by winter so work on the Tabernacle can begin in the spring.

These are improvements that we have needed for several years. While we are thankful for the more than fifty great years that our camp has served, let's be honest, there is need for improvement. While we realize that this new tabernacle will not meet all our future needs, it is a start. Before we can finish this building, we must raise at least

\$100,000. I realize that to many people that is a lofty goal, but we believe that this project is God's will, He will move in the hearts of people and they will give generously. Our real concern is the urgency of needing the funds by January 1st. Our goal is to have the building complete as soon as possible. The sooner the money is in hand, the quicker our youth will reap the benefits of this new facility.

By now you have heard some of the incentives for levels of giving. While asking for large donations will turn off some, we hope that everyone will give something. Many Free Will Baptist churches have been built and maintained with small contributions. Only \$5 per week would amount to \$260 in one year's time. While that is not a large sum by itself, combined with 99 other \$5 weekly contributions, it would become \$26,000. Most families can give \$5 per week. What we need is for our pastors to place this burden on the hearts of their congregations. Some will be able to give \$1,000, others \$500, \$100, etc. But all could give \$5.

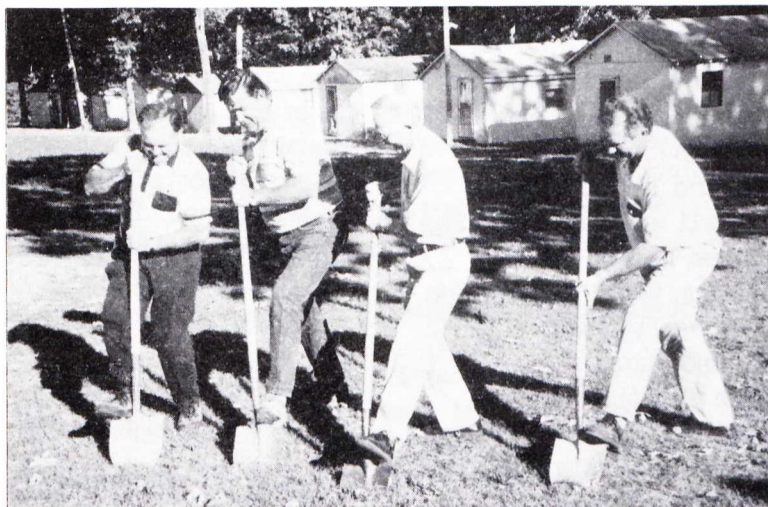
We feel blessed to have kept the price for camp very low. As we have checked with other camps, we find that we are usually \$50 per camper below other camps. How God has blessed us and we have been able to do this for so many years is, in itself, remarkable. Your one-time gift can help us to keep our costs low. It is important that our camp be not only attractive to our youth, but also afford-

able. If everyone works together and gives what they can, there is no reason why we cannot only achieve, but also surpass all of these goals.

Let's face it. There are many things we need to begin doing if we want our camp to meet the needs of the young

people across our state. For example, last year there was a young girl who attended our camp in a wheelchair. While most can walk across the gravel, it was a difficult endeavor for her. We must make our camp accessible for these special needs. That means that we need either a paved road or sidewalk from one end of the camp to the other.

Plans are to air-con-



**Camp Board Members Breaking Ground  
For the New Tabernacle**

dition the kitchen by next year (this needed to be done years ago, but funds were not available). Our playgrounds and mini-golf need complete renovation. Many of our cabins are in dire need of repair. We are not complaining. We are thankful that God is blessing us to begin the process of these renovations, but the problems with the structural integrity of the old tabernacle forced us to make it first priority. While we are aware of these other needs and will begin work on them as soon as possible, our first two projects are the new tabernacle and to finish the new ball field (the new tabernacle will be located on the old ball field).

God still owns the cattle on a thousand hills. If He chose to send a check to cover the expenses, we would certainly celebrate, but He will most likely use you so you can also receive the blessing of giving. Whether your name is on a brick on a wall or not, each time you visit the camp you will know you had a part in the ministry of this youth camp when you give to this project. Every time the evangelist gives the altar call, you have helped bring those children to the altar.

Decision time. How much can you give . . . and when will you give it. We will not begin to tell you when or how much to give. That is between you and God. God knows our need . . . God knows your finances. All is appreciated.





## The Youth Look

By Ann Poletti

This poem was sent to me, and I wanted to share it with you readers. Do you feel convicted when you read it? Sadly, it may not even be the TV Guide—there are many

other things distracting us from the Bible . . . and God, Himself.

### "Side By Side"

*They lie on the table side by side  
The Holy Bible and the TV Guide.  
One is well worn and cherished with pride.  
Not the Bible, but the TV Guide.  
One is used daily to help folks decide.  
No, not the Bible, but the TV Guide.  
As the pages are turned, what shall they see?  
Oh, what does it matter, turn on the TV.  
So they open the book in which they confide.  
No, not the Bible, but the TV Guide.  
The Word of God is seldom read.  
Maybe a verse before they fall into bed.  
Exhausted and sleepy and tired as can be.  
Not from reading the Bible, from watching TV.  
So then back to the table side by side,  
Lie the Holy Bible and the TV Guide.  
No time for prayer, no time for the Word,  
The plan of Salvation is seldom heard.  
But forgiveness of sin, so full and free,  
Is found in the Bible, not on TV!*

## Hillsdale FWB College Harvest - Holiday Drive

### Hillsdale

Forty years She's stood the test.  
Forty years She's trained the best.  
Forty years She's been God-blest.  
Victory Her Song.

Always shining forth the light.  
Always speaking for the right.  
Always strong in the fight.  
Valiant against wrong.

Sending out those She has trained.  
Sending near and o'er the main.  
Sending all in Christ Jesus' name.  
Virtue still strong.

These short simple verses tell the story of The Institution. A story of study, spirituality, service and success. Check the field. Out there you will find the unfolding of all of the above. No post has been too distant. No task has been too demanding. No cost has been too drastic. Truth is in the practice. Hillsdale has, is and will make a difference. That difference is projection, progress and progenitive. This assurance is strong.

Faithful supporters have stayed the course. While some have stepped from the scene, others have stood up to fill the vacancy. Without such continued faithfulness a different history would be recorded. Out of past years come the words of Walter Lee Jernigan, "Consistency, thou art a jewel." And, so it is with Hillsdale supporters. Consistency has been the watch word. You have remained.

A goal of \$75,000.00 for the Harvest - Holiday Drive is a challenge. But it is not unobtainable. However, it is well known that without the leadership of pastors and other prominent churchmen, no financial drive would meet with success. As always, we are counting on you.

## 333 Enroll at Free Will Baptist Bible College

Free Will Baptist Bible College enrolled 333 students in late August, according to a report from Dr. Charles Hampton, Registrar. Students come from 24 states and nine foreign countries.

To date, there are 125 new and transfer students who are joining 208 returnees. Dr. James Cox, Director of Enrollment Management says, "This is the largest number of new students in at least 12 years." The dormitory population numbers 232, with 101 living off campus.

The enrollment total is well above spring projections due to a higher than usual number of summer applications. "A lot of our people worked hard, especially in summer camps, to reach young people who might not have considered coming to FWBBC," says Bert Tippet, Public Relations Director. "It appears that a reorganization of the Enrollment Management process and the addition of several summer recruiters paid off."

By classes, the present enrollment includes 126 freshmen, 86 sophomores, 57 juniors, 56 seniors, and eight special students. Sixty-one students are studying pastoral training or youth ministry. Thirty-two are taking missions studies.

Registration took place on the Nashville campus August 23 and 24, with 15 students registering from Missouri.



## **(PUTTING GOD BACK... FROM PAGE 2)**

As Jefferson testified, "Almighty God hath created the mind free."

But in the latter half of the 20th century the state is trying to take by force the unalienable rights freely given to us by God, declared in the Declaration of Independence to be "self evident." Caesar is trying to tell us when, where, and how we can profess our faith.

In 1962 the Supreme Court outlawed a simple, 22-word, nondenominational prayer devised by the New York Board of Regents and used in the New York public schools: "Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon thee, and we beg thy blessings upon us, our parents, our teachers, and our country."

A year later the Court issued another ruling declaring that reading the Bible and reciting the Lord's Prayer in Pennsylvania and Maryland public schools was unconstitutional, thus outlawing "without the citation of a single case" practices that had existed in American schools for over 170 years. Writing for the majority, Justice Tom C. Clark asserted, "In the relationship between man and religion, the state is firmly committed to a position of neutrality." Justice Potter Stewart pointed out in his lone dissent that this was false neutrality indeed, designed to stifle public professions of faith. Justice Stewart also noted, "We err in the first place if we do not recognize, as a matter of history and a matter of the imperatives of our free society, that religion and government must necessarily interact in countless ways."

Both decisions represented a major turning point in our history. Judges were no longer interested in the "original intent" of the founders or in legal precedents (which they unapologetically and arrogantly failed to cite). They were eager to embrace the new doctrine of "judicial activism," which would allow them the opportunity to use their power to reshape society according to the attitudes and whims of the changing times.

Since the 1960s judicial activists have made a concerted effort to banish God from the public square. They have done this by deliberately destroying the distinction between "religion" and "religious activity." These terms may sound similar, but in fact they are very different. Religious activities may include many actions that would not themselves constitute religion. For example, prayer and Bible reading might be characterized as religious activities, but they do not constitute religion, and they are not limited to any specific sect or even to religious people. One may read the New Testament to gain wisdom, and school students may pray before a big exam. Neither activity was intended to be, is, or should be, proscribed by the First Amendment, even if practiced in public.

Sadly, however, it seems that the judicial activists are winning the war. Consider the 1997 case in Dekalb County, Alabama. There, a federal district court determined that a student's brief prayer during a high school graduation ceremony was a violation of the First Amendment because it allegedly coerced unwilling citizens to participate in reli-

gious activity. We have evidently forgotten that nothing in the Constitution guarantees that an individual won't have to see and hear things that are disagreeable or offensive to him. We have also failed to realize that peer pressure and public opinion are not the types of coercion against which the framers were seeking to safeguard.

No student should ever be forced by law to participate in prayer or in other religious activity. But to outlaw the public acknowledgment of God simply because another student might have to witness it is as illogical as abandoning a school mascot or motto because it might not be every student's favorite or because some might not believe in "school spirit."

In this context, Justice Joseph Story is again worth quoting. He said: "The duty of supporting religion, and especially the Christian religion, is very different from the right to force the consciences of other men, or to punish them for worshiping God in the manner, which, they believe their accountability to him requires." Even more to the point, one of the most famous Supreme Court justices, William O. Douglas, once wrote that forbidding public worship discriminates in favor of "those who believe in no religion over those who do believe."

### **Disastrous Consequences**

October 1997—Pearl, Mississippi; December 1997—Paducah, Kentucky; March 1998—Jonesboro, Arkansas; April 1998—Edinborough, Pennsylvania; May 1998—Fayetteville, Tennessee; April 1999—Littleton, Colorado. These dates and places—these outbreaks of mass violence and needless loss of young lives - serve as a cruel reminder of something gone wrong, desperately wrong, in a nation founded upon faith in God and a respect for His eternal commandments.

Liberal commentators in the media, academe, and the justice system deride the notion that restoring prayer and posting the Ten Commandments can help stem the tide of violence and bloodshed. They prefer secular solutions, especially ones that involve more federal spending and regulation. In effect, they favor more concertina wire, metal detectors, and armed security guards instead of the simple and effective teaching of moral absolutes.

Yes teaching moral absolutes is out of the question. *"We don't want to trample on the civil rights of students."* *"We don't want to teach that one creed or one code of conduct or one lifestyle is better than another."*

When will they understand that secular solutions will never solve spiritual problems?

Tragically, as in the days of the Roman Empire, we too have become accustomed to "bread and circuses." With our stomachs full and our minds preoccupied with the pleasures of this world, we fail to seriously ponder the reason for the tragedies that are regularly occurring before our very eyes. We rarely contemplate the significance of the judiciary's usurpation of power and suppression of religious liberty. When and if we do, we are too

**(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)**



## (PUTTING GOD BACK... FROM PAGE 9)

often afraid to take a stand—ashamed of our faith in God, afraid to hazard the notion of putting God back into the public square.

We must not wait for more violence, for a total breakdown of our schools and our communities. We must not be silent while every vestige of God is removed from our public life and while every public display of faith is annihilated. The time has come to recover the valiant courage of our forefathers, who understood that faith and freedom are inseparable and that they are worth fighting for.

In the words of that great Christian and patriot, Patrick Henry,

We must fight! I repeat it, sir, we must fight!! An appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts is all that is left us! . . . Why stand we here idle? What is it that the gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"

### Sunday School Averages April 1999 - September 1999

Churches:	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
Belton	34	32	37	37	42	38
Calvary Chapel	134	121	119	130	134	139
Cape Girardeau	52	47	50	55	48	63
Copper Mines	50	55	53	52	53	56
Cuba	110	113	113	112	107	107
Columbia	29	23	25	28	28	29
DeSoto	161	146	151	154	160	
Farmington		326		322	351	
Hannon	116	116	127	103	119	119
Hartville	101	105	106	97	104	91
Hazel Creek	62	58		59	57	
Hopewell	29	30	26	35	29	
Houston	46	43	44	46	47	42
Lebanon FWB	54	52	47	47	49	46
Lebanon 1st	109	109	107	99	99	95
Mill Creek	66	63	60	61	62	61
Monett	62	51	51	46		
Myrtle	43	37	34	35		
O'Fallon 1st	76	61	65		65	51
Oskaloosa	14	14				
Ozark	108	104	111	108	104	
Park Hills	146	114	112	106	113	
Purdy	54	48	46	43	54	56
Richwoods	29	27	27	25	26	
Rock Chapel					46	41
Rolla 1st	32	30	26	28	27	
Southside	34	31				
Springfield 1st	129	115	118	116	115	
Thayer		141	147	143	144	
Trinity	72	67	69	60	69	
United		316	321	305	326	316
Willow Springs	57	55	50	52	54	69

The above is only a partial listing- there are 184 Free Will Baptist Churches in Missouri. Each church is encouraged to send in their Sunday School average each month.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

SEPTEMBER 1999

### Cooperative Disbursements

September 1999 ..... \$54,498.93

18.50%	MOHome Miss. Bd ..	10,082.30
17.50%	Executive Office .....	9,537.33
3.00%	General Fund .....	1,634.97
.50%	Show-Me Plan .....	272.49
8.50%	Youth Camp Bd .....	4,632.41
2.50%	Youth Min. Bd .....	1,362.47
2.50%	C. E. Board .....	1,362.47
2.50%	Senior Adult .....	1,362.4
9.00%	MO Retirement .....	4,904.90

30.50%		
	National Ministries, Hillsdale and	
	California Christian College \$	16,622.17
	Foreign Missions Board	
	National Home Missions Bd	
	Same Allocation	
	FWBB College	
	Hillsdale FWB College	
	Executive Department	
	Layman's Board	
	Radio & TV Commission	
	Theological Commission	
	Historical Commission	
	Board of Retirement & Insur.	
	1.00% C.C.C. (\$166.22)	
5.00%	Missouri State Conference	
	Center Fund .....	\$2,724.95

Total ..... \$54,498.93

### CO-OP

Amity .....	\$137.45
Aulsbury Chapel .....	\$274.07
Bailey .....	\$215.00
Bailey Chapel .....	\$250.00
Belton .....	\$442.85
Bethel - El Dorado Sps .....	\$151.41
Black Oak .....	\$325.52
Buffalo 1st .....	\$100.00
Byrd .....	\$91.15
Cabool 1st .....	\$256.17
Calvary Chapel .....	\$1,115.07
Calvary Fellowship .....	\$1,382.58
Cape Girardeau 1st .....	\$403.15
Carthage .....	\$292.54
Central .....	\$853.76
Christ Chapel .....	\$255.55
Clifton .....	\$93.50
Columbia .....	\$194.07
Copper Mines .....	\$567.10
Cornerstone - Mtn. Grove .....	\$368.76
Crossroads - Wentzville .....	\$715.00
Cuba .....	\$744.00
DeSoto 1st .....	\$1,500.00
Faith & Hope - Aurora .....	\$86.80
Faith & Hope - Willow Springs ..	\$40.00
Farmington 1st .....	\$3,686.04
Fellowship - Park Hills .....	\$1,000.00
Fordland .....	\$763.32
Fourth - St. Louis .....	\$319.31
Fredericktown 1st .....	\$345.00
Freeman Chapel .....	\$669.76
Friendship - Kirbyville .....	\$378.23
Grace - Arnold .....	\$1,386.00
Grant Avenue .....	\$1,126.49
Hannibal .....	\$267.00
Hannon .....	\$1,035.31
Harmony - Parkville .....	\$608.00
Hartville .....	\$852.00
Hazel Creek .....	\$516.55
Hopewell .....	\$226.00
Houston 1st .....	\$389.05
Hurryville .....	\$502.28
Jackson .....	\$240.59
Joplin 1st .....	\$752.60

Kirksville 1st .....	\$6.00
Koshkonong .....	\$251.00
Lead Hill .....	\$324.60
Lebanon .....	\$340.13
Lebanon 1st .....	\$1,061.90
Lone Star .....	\$63.30
Macedonia .....	\$89.27
Merls Chapel .....	\$243.00
Mill Creek .....	\$452.77
Mine LaMotte .....	\$63.75
Monett 1st .....	\$476.71
Mt. Pisgah .....	\$401.00
Mt. Zion - Gower .....	\$74.00
Myrtle .....	\$195.23
Myrtle .....	\$203.85
Neosho 1st .....	\$95.00
New Hope - Fredtwn .....	\$70.00
Niangua .....	\$329.00
Niangua .....	\$231.00
Number One .....	\$85.90
Oak Grove - Mt. Grove .....	\$192.98
Oak Hill .....	\$621.05
O'Fallon 1st .....	\$984.60
Oskaloosa .....	\$292.54
Overland .....	\$125.00
Ozark 1st .....	\$1,599.66
Park Hills .....	\$940.91
Parkview .....	\$493.74
Pleasant Hill .....	\$284.72
Pleasant Home Mtn. Gr .....	\$403.60
Pleasant Ridge Urbana .....	\$93.00
Potosi 1st .....	\$115.79
Republic .....	\$100.00
Rock Chapel .....	\$466.37
Rolla 1st .....	\$242.00
Royal Oak .....	\$138.00
Seymour .....	\$337.00
Smyrna .....	\$98.00
South Fremont .....	\$2,220.00
Springfield .....	\$222.00
Springfield 1st .....	\$1,050.58
Stockton .....	\$199.63
Terrill Road .....	\$417.00
Thayer .....	\$1,512.00
Trinity .....	\$1,094.71
Twin Oak .....	\$1,095.51
Union - Success .....	\$60.00
Union Grove .....	\$494.00
Union Light .....	\$170.00
United .....	\$1,598.47
Unity - Lebanon .....	\$350.00
Verdella .....	\$646.69
Viburnum .....	\$431.69
Victory - Alton .....	\$546.99
Victory (K.C.) .....	\$1,387.42
Waynesville 1st .....	\$419.83
West Plains 1st .....	\$764.00
West Plains 1st .....	\$705.25
Willow Springs .....	\$275.64
Wolf Creek .....	\$332.12
Total .....	\$54,498.93

### SHOW-ME PLAN

AmeriVision - Lee, G. ....	\$25.58
Barker, Rev. J. ....	\$15.00
Belton .....	\$150.00
Berean .....	\$30.00
Berry, R. ....	\$15.00
Bethel - El Dorado .....	\$362.86
Bethel - Festus .....	\$45.00
Big Creek .....	\$55.00
Black Oak .....	\$30.00
Buffalo 1st .....	\$60.00
Buxton, G. ....	\$30.00
Cabool .....	\$135.00
Calvary Chapel - Buffalo .....	\$105.00
Calvary Fellowship .....	\$2,593.00
Carter, J. ....	\$15.00
Central .....	\$310.00



Chism, B. ....	\$10.00
Chrisman, M. ....	\$30.00
Columbia .....	\$60.00
Copper Mines .....	\$150.00
Copper Mines -Teen Class .....	\$30.00
Copper Mines - Yg. Adult Cl .....	\$15.00
Cornerstone - Mtn. Grove .....	\$359.00
Cuba .....	\$225.85
Darnell, W. ....	\$15.00
DeSoto 1st .....	\$460.00
DeSoto 1st - SS Class .....	\$15.00
Faith - Oak Grove .....	\$250.00
Faith - St. Louis .....	\$23.00
Faith & Hope - W.S. ....	\$60.00
Farmington 1st .....	\$1,065.00
Fellowship .....	\$1,000.88
Fordland .....	\$180.00
Fourth .....	\$210.00
Fredericktown 1st .....	\$150.00
Freeman Chapel .....	\$540.00
Garrett, R. ....	\$15.00
Gospel Light .....	\$735.00
Grace .....	\$438.00
Graham, S. ....	\$15.00
Grant Ave. ....	\$380.00
Hannibal - WNAC .....	\$45.00
Hannon .....	\$1,285.31
Harmony - Parkville .....	\$202.20
Harris, F. ....	\$45.00
Hartville .....	\$195.00
Hazel Creek .....	\$984.37
Hocker, D. ....	\$500.00
Houston 1st .....	\$300.75
Hurryville .....	\$300.00
Hurryville Sr. Adult Class .....	\$24.70
Jackson .....	\$30.00
Joplin 1st .....	\$75.00
Leadington .....	\$180.00
Lebanon 1st .....	\$150.00
Lebanon F.W.B. ....	\$30.00
Macedonia - Purdy .....	\$4,100.00
Macedonia Aux. ....	\$1,000.00
Maggart, D. ....	\$90.00
Matthews, G. ....	\$350.00
Merl's Chapel .....	\$200.00
Mill Creek .....	\$90.00
Mill Creek .....	\$45.00
Mill Creek Yg Adult Cl .....	\$15.00
Mine La Motte .....	\$45.00
Missouri State WAC .....	\$804.05
Mitchell, R. ....	\$105.00
Monett 1st .....	\$285.00
Mt. Pisgah .....	\$75.00
Mt. Zion - Thayer .....	\$30.00
Myrtle .....	\$75.00
Myrtle .....	\$75.00
Neosho 1st .....	\$240.00
New Hope - Fredericktown .....	\$105.00
New Testament .....	\$30.00
Niangua .....	\$150.00
Noel, D. ....	\$15.00
Oak Grove - Houston .....	\$15.00
O'Fallon 1st .....	\$189.00
Ozark 1st .....	\$30.00
Park Hills 1st .....	\$282.27
Parkview - Desloge .....	\$315.73
Parson, O. ....	\$15.00
Pinkerton, J. ....	\$45.00
Pleasant Grove - Anderson .....	\$90.00
Pleasant Home .....	\$75.00
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana .....	\$50.00
Purdy .....	\$255.00
Reagan, Jimmie .....	\$300.00
Rehkop, Lon .....	\$30.00
Richardson, O. ....	\$15.00
Richwoods .....	\$52.50
Rock Chapel .....	\$240.00
Rogers, B. ....	\$15.00
Royal Oak .....	\$120.00
Ruble N. ....	\$45.00
South Central Assn. ....	\$333.34
South Fremont .....	\$445.00
Sparks, J. ....	\$15.00
Springfield 1st .....	\$559.00
Thayer .....	\$295.00
Thomas, E. ....	\$50.00

Trinity .....	\$585.00
Union Light .....	\$120.00
United - West Plains .....	\$418.97
Unity .....	\$75.00
Verdella .....	\$926.69
Viburnum .....	\$85.00
Victory - K.C. ....	\$540.00
Waynesville 1st .....	\$269.63
West Plains 1st .....	\$214.00
White, R. ....	\$15.00
Willow Springs - Mtn. Grove .....	\$85.00
Willow Springs 1st .....	\$150.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$30,040.68</b>

#### Foreign Missions

Cuba .....	\$37.64
Cape Girardeau .....	\$161.26
Calvary Fellowship .....	\$664.83
Harmony Fellowship (Co) .....	\$152.00
Gospel Light .....	\$60.00
Rock Chapel .....	\$15.00
Farmington 1st .....	\$25.00
Trinity .....	\$302.09
Houston 1st .....	\$40.00
Victory - K.C. ....	\$75.00
Ozark 1st .....	\$20.00
Thayer .....	\$60.00
West Plains 1st .....	\$191.00
Union Light .....	\$10.00
Grant Ave. ....	\$86.00
Chapman, A. ....	\$20.00
Minor, K. ....	\$20.00
Lewis, D. ....	\$20.00
Viburnum .....	\$10.00
Central .....	\$274.84
Neosho 1st .....	\$30.00
New Testament .....	\$140.00
Kirksville 1st .....	\$49.50
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$2,464.16</b>

#### State Home Missions

Belton .....	\$50.00
Central .....	\$40.00
Cuba .....	\$37.64
DeSoto 1st .....	\$90.00
DeSoto 1st Children's Ch .....	\$20.00
Farmington 1st .....	\$135.00
Fellowship - Park Hills .....	\$145.00
Gospel Light .....	\$60.00
Grace - Arnold .....	\$55.00
Larry Wormington .....	\$30.00
Lebanon Bible & Book .....	\$315.00
New Home .....	\$10.00
O'Fallon 1st .....	\$48.50
Ozark 1st .....	\$10.00
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana .....	\$20.00
Richard White .....	\$10.00
Thayer .....	\$60.00
United .....	\$25.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1,161.14</b>

#### NAT'L HOME MISSIONS

Alan Chapmar .....	\$10.00
Arline Hopper .....	\$10.00
Artie Holdman .....	\$20.00
Auditorium SS Class - DeSoto 1st .....	\$10.00
Belton .....	\$60.50
Bill Chandler .....	\$25.00
Bob Thebeau .....	\$35.00
Brenda King .....	\$15.00
Bud Rogers .....	\$40.00
Calvary Fellowship .....	\$2,410.27
Carthage .....	\$75.00
Central .....	\$10.00
Chuck Degonia .....	\$10.00
David Boyd .....	\$60.00
DeSoto 1st .....	\$330.00
Donna Lewis .....	\$50.00
Faith & Hope - Aurora .....	\$86.80
Farmington 1st .....	\$299.00
Fordland .....	\$405.00
Gary Orrick .....	\$20.00
Gospel Light .....	\$60.00

Grace - Arnold .....	\$114.00
Grant Avenue .....	\$116.65
Hannon .....	\$621.18
Harmony Fellowship .....	\$177.00
Hartville .....	\$500.00
Houston 1st .....	\$85.00
Jackson .....	\$30.00
Jerry Rader .....	\$20.00
Jim Pope .....	\$30.00
John Elders .....	\$6.00
Joplin 1st .....	\$20.00
Judy Hoggard .....	\$60.00
Kerry Crossland .....	\$10.00
Larry Voyles .....	\$50.00
Lester Gale .....	\$20.00
Macedonia Auxiliary .....	\$100.00
Mae Nosser .....	\$10.00
Maggie Kenuam .....	\$10.00
Marlon Crossland .....	\$25.00
Merls Chapel .....	\$135.00
Monett 1st .....	\$157.00
Mt. Pisgah .....	\$25.00
Myrtle .....	\$40.00
Myrtle .....	\$40.00
Neosho 1st .....	\$60.00
New Home - Hartville .....	\$10.00
New Testament .....	\$300.00
O'Fallon 1st .....	\$48.50
Ozark 1st .....	\$15.00
Park Hills .....	\$174.40
Pleasant Home .....	\$123.63
Ralph Douglas .....	\$500.00
Richard White .....	\$30.00
Richwoods 1st .....	\$102.00
Robby Fortner .....	\$30.00
Rock Chapel .....	\$83.05
Rodney Garrett .....	\$10.00
South Fremont .....	\$545.00
Springfield .....	\$50.00
Thayer .....	\$230.00
Trinity - Bridgeton .....	\$40.00
Union Light .....	\$96.00
United .....	\$150.00
United .....	\$170.00
United Yth Gp - W. Plains .....	\$340.00
Unity - Lebanon .....	\$50.00
Verdella .....	\$10.00
Viburnum .....	\$109.00
Victory - K.C. ....	\$75.00
Warren Woodfin .....	\$5.00
Waynesville 1st .....	\$50.00
West Plains 1st .....	\$90.00
Wolf Creek .....	\$75.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$10,014.98</b>

#### Youth Camp

Cabool 1st .....	10.00
New Life - Monett .....	173.81
Lebanon Bible & Book Store .....	195.00
Hartville .....	10.00
Mt. Pisgah .....	15.00
Trinity - Bridgeton .....	14.00
Hannon .....	15.00
Willow Springs .....	10.00
Niangua .....	40.00
New Home - Hartville .....	10.00
Verdella .....	15.00
Ozark 1st .....	10.00
Thayer .....	50.00
Park Hills 1st .....	50.30
Cornerstone - Mtn. Grove .....	25.00
DeSoto 1st .....	55.00
Buffalo 1st .....	50.00
Union - Success .....	30.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$778.11</b>

#### Camp Development Fund

Rev. Carlisle Hanna .....	100.00
Harmony - Parkville .....	125.00
Hannon VBS .....	150.35
Houston 1st .....	100.00
Willow Springs .....	10.00
Niangua .....	500.00
West Plains 1st .....	110.00
Wolf Creek Youth .....	114.75
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1210.10</b>

#### Free Will Baptist Bible College

Calvary Fellowship (Evangel Players) .....	110.00
Farmington 1st .....	132.00
Nathan Ruble .....	15.00
Verdella .....	129.33
Thayer .....	50.00
South Central District Assn. ....	333.33
DeSoto 1st .....	40.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$809.66</b>

#### Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College

Farmington 1st .....	115.00
Hannon .....	50.00
Joplin 1st .....	75.00
Victory - Kansas City .....	114.37
Ozark 1st .....	10.00
Thayer .....	55.00
South Central District Assn .....	333.33
Grant Avenue .....	8.00
Neosho 1st .....	60.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$820.70</b>

#### Trula Cronk Home for Children

Myrtle .....	10.00
New Life - Monett .....	173.81
South Fremont .....	200.00
Farmington 1st .....	15.00
Unity - Lebanon .....	10.00
Hannon .....	100.00
New Hope - Fredericktown .....	30.00
Belton .....	90.00
DeSoto 1st .....	105.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$733.81</b>

#### Rev. John McClure

Gospel Light .....	80.00
Trinity - Bridgeton .....	20.00
Monett 1st .....	35.00
Thayer .....	10.00
Grace - Arnold .....	15.00
Carthage .....	15.00
Central Western Dist WNAC .....	15.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$190.00</b>

#### Youth Ministries Board

Lebanon Bible & Book Store .....	105.00
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#### Senior Adult Ministries

Lebanon Bible & Book .....	105.00
Calvary Fellowship .....	72.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$177.00</b>

#### C. E. Board

Lebanon Bible & Book Store .....	105.00
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#### Missouri Retirement Program

Lebanon Bible & Book .....	142.50
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#### Stewardship Commission

Lebanon Bible & Book .....	225.00
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#### Missouri State WAFC

Belton .....	15.00
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#### California Christian College

Farmington 1st .....	78.00
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#### Steve Smith

DeSoto 1st .....	55.00
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#### FWB Retirement Board

Grant Avenue .....	1.00
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#### Melanie Walker

(Denver Street School)	
Verdella .....	20.00

#### Brian Brinkhoff

New Testament .....	20.00
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#### "Rest of Family" Offering

Myrtle .....	150.00
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# North Carolina Suffers From Hurricane Floyd

Dear Pastors, Leaders and Friends:

Free Will Baptist families in North Carolina have suffered the worst flooding disaster in 500 years. Forty people have died and the number is rising. The Federal Government can't really put a dollar amount on the loss because the waters are still high. The Free Will Baptist pastors in the center of this disaster tell me that the number of their members who have lost everything continues to rise. Most of them have anywhere from 7-10 families who have lost all they have, and do not have flood insurance to help them recover.

Multitudes of Free Will Baptists have not only lost their homes (structure, furniture, appliances, family antiques and heirlooms, clothes, vehicles, etc.), they have lost their businesses, places of employment, and farms. The domino effect will begin in a month's time with bankrupt families, businesses and farms, kids dropping out of college and Christian Schools, ministries going defunct, and on we could go. There is just no way to comprehend the massive destruction that has taken place and will take place. This is not going to go away for a long, long time.

But, on the brighter side, things and people are in motion to help. Here in North Carolina we have organized an account and a system to try to relieve our pastors and people. An account by the name of the **NC FREE WILL BAPTIST DISASTER RELIEF FUND** has been set up to take contributions to help Free Will Baptist families to cope with their losses. Contributions can be mailed to the **NC Free Will Baptist Promotional Dept., P. O. Box 67, Goldsboro, NC, 27533-0067**. A board of pastors (those who are in the center of all of this devastation), the Promotional Director and a representative from the Executive Committee will devise a plan to equitably distribute the funds that will be received.

Also, we have designated four churches to receive donated items such as furniture, food, clothing, etc. These churches are in a four-corners pattern which basically

surrounds the worst of the flooding zone. If you ship goods to these locations, please give them notice of your approximate time of arrival so they will be prepared.

1. **Bethel FWB Church, Kinston, NC.** On Hwy. 258, @ two mile north of Hwy. 70 (252) 522-2451

2. **Sherwood Forrest FWB, New Bern, NC.** Hwy. 70E to Glenburnie Exit. Turn left, go approximately two miles to Nuese Blvd. and turn right. Church is approximately one mile on right.

(252) 637-5229, 638-8214, 637-5754, 638-2441

3. **Trinity FWB Church, Greenville, NC.**

On the corner of Hwy. 264 By-pass and Golden Rd. (252) 758-1000

4. **Union Chapel FWB Church, Chocowinity, NC.**

Go south on Hwy. 17 from intersection of Hwy. 33 for approximately four miles. Union Chapel Road will be on your left. Church straight ahead. (252) 946-5877 or 975-1380

We need the help of our Free Will Baptist brothers and sisters from all over the United States. Many have already responded with calls and questions of what they can do. For this, North Carolina Free Will Baptists are indeed grateful. Free Will Baptist families are trusting the Lord to lead you to help us with your prayers, influence, finances, material goods, or simply publishing to all of our churches and people the situation that exists. You may speak to someone or some church that could be a great blessing to Free Will Baptists in need.

If you would like to receive updates to our conditions, email me at **ncfwb@est.net** and I will put you on our list. Thank you in advance for your prayers, calls, contacts and compassion.

A Servant for Christ and Free Will Baptists,  
Jim Marcum  
NC FWB Promotional Director

## MISSOURI STATE ASSOC. OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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