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of Free Will Baptists

# THE DYNAMICS OF SPIRITUAL LIFE

God has saved each of us, not only to go to heaven, but to become NOW in this life like our Lord Jesus Christ! The dynamics of spiritual life as taught in the Bible are not limited to mere preparation for the hereafter, but includes God's prescribed model for living here and now on this 90od earth! One of the most misunderstood and maligned passages of the New Testament is found in the first chapter of St. Paul's letter to the Colossians; here, St. Paul writes, "So we preach Christ to all men. We warn and teach everyone, with all possible wisdom, in order to bring each one into God's presence as a mature individual in union with Christ" (1:28, TEV).

Careful study of the scriptures confirm to us that a salvific relationship with God through Jesus Christ is one that is linked to a changing life in this lifetime. St. John emphasizes this fact by Writing, "whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did" (1 John 2:6, NIV). Properly understood, this means we DO the things that Jesus DID as we grow in his grace and knowledge. Thus, redemption is naturally to be followed by evidence of the desire for reformation in our character and conduct. This does not mean that we will be perfect down here, but it does mean that we are being "perfected" or made more into the likeness of Christ.

How then, does this occur in the life of a believer? Only as we both BELIEVE and DO some things! A good answer comes from Dallas Willard: "True character transformation begins...in the pure grace of God and is continually assisted by it. But action is also indispensable in making the Christian truly a

## KILLING IN THE NAME OF RELIGION

Some skeptics attempt to discredit Christianity by bringing up the atrocities of the Crusades, Inquisitions, and the Salem witch hunts. All of which included some departure from Jesus as a role model and his teachings. In other words some people who claimed to be Christians were not true, obedient followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus went about forgiving people of their sins, healing, and setting people free from bondage (Luke 4:18-19).

Dr. D. James Kennedy: "The Crusades began as a reaction to Islam. The religion of Mohammed had spread by the sword in the seventh century, and millions of Christians were forced to convert or be killed. In fact, the forces of Mohammed even tried to conquer Europe, but they were checked in 732 on French soil by Charles Martel (the hammer) in one of history's most important conflicts, The Battle of Tours."

During the Crusades, 30,000 people were killed. Authorities were banning the Bible during the Inquisitions. Many thousands were killed. In 1692, some judges in Puritan New England tried several hundred people and twenty were hanged. Puritan leader, Increase Mather, wrote a pamphlet, "Cases of Conscience ... .. calling for the implementation of the Biblical pattern of two witnesses, the killing stopped."

"Using the most exaggerated criteria and numbers, one could come up with no more than 17 million people ... " killed by people who claimed to be Christians. This pales in

## Inside This Issue:

Motel Information for State Meeting

Mountain Grove 1st to Celebrate 75th

Senior Adult Retreat Registration

Youth Competition Registration

> State and National News

Financial Reports

# WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO FOURTH CHURCH?

It's been a while since I have tried to sit down and write but Fourth's doors are still opened. We know many have prayed for our ministry. We deeply appreciate that. I think the last news sent was regarding the commissioning and leaving of our former pastor, Rev. John Rhodes. As many know, he and his wife Gail, are in the Virgin Islands working at the school there. Fourth has seen some fine men come and then feel led by God to leave. Instead of despair, we did what we've always done, prayed that God would send us whom He wanted for our church.

Many smaller churches are still in operation because as long as there is a praying remnant, God still calls men of God to pastor. It's when there is a long dry spell in between tha frustration can set in. We knew times of this in the past but God blessed until we became self-supporting and He sent us the Rhodes family.

We miss them, but the work of Fourth Church must continue. We couldn't give up so again we prayed. We had to wait on the Lord, but in a few months, Rev. Gary Parker and his wife, Sharon, from the DeSoto Church felt led to come and work with us for the Glory of God. Their son, Gary Matthew and grandson, Andrew came with them and joined our church.

We were so excited, to say the least, but we had some work to do. We spruced up the parsonage and were so proud to have the Parkers move in. We appreciated all the hard work our men and some of our women did to make this possible. Pastor and wife were pleased with the labor of love.

Well, needless to say, once a pastor finds out people are willing to roll up their sleeves, there was work that needed to be done on the church building itself.

We have seen some folks saved and the Lord is blessing our efforts. I firmly believe Pastor Parker is a man of faith. (You should see him up on a ladder.) I say that because the old light fixtures are gone and someone had to be brave to help hang the new ones.

The old antique organ is gone and a smaller model is in its place. Bro. Rodger Young is our new organist and does an excellent job. He and his wife, Vivian, pianist really add to the service with their gifts for music. We recently hosted the Tri-Annual meeting. I think some folks were surprised and possibly impressed. We still have much to do but a lot can happen when God enables His people to make things happen for Him.

If you are ever in the neighborhood, stop by and hear some great preaching and you'll be able to read your Bible better with the new lights.

Sue Winchester, church reporter

## INDIAN CREEK "FUN" RAISER FOR MISSIONS CONFERENCE

The Mission Board of the Indian Creek Association had a bowling tournament on Feb. 23rd in Neosho to raise funds for the November Missions Conference. Six churches participated from the association with 15 - four person teams that bowled two lines each. The top three team scores when combining the two lines of bowling determined the winners of the trophies. First place went to the "Freedom Team" of the Jones Chapel FWBC. Second place went to the "Master's Men" of the First Church of Neosho and the "Holy Rollers" of the Carthage First Church took home the 3rd place trophy. Also a very used and heavily damaged ball was awarded to the team with the most "0" on the score card. That award went to the NBC team of the Purdy First Church.

An amount of \$535.00 was raised during the Saturday afternoon fun raiser and will be included in the total amount raised for the Mission Conference which will be held Nov. 3 through 8 this year.

Look for Youth Camp Registration Forms in May Issue of Gem

## CABOOL WELCOMES NEW PASTOR



### The Rick Batten Family

The congregation of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Cabool extends a warm welcome to their new pastor, Brother Rick Batten and his family.

Brother Batten and his wife, Helen, have two children, Jacob and Jenifer. The family is from Ava, MO. They have served in Free Will Baptists ministries for several years in the Mansfield and Norwood communities.

# CHILDREN'S TEACHER TRAINING SEMINAR

Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church in Springfield is hosting the Spring 200 Children's Teacher Training Seminar, Saturday, May 4th, from 9 a.m. - Noon.

As our culture evolves into an on-deman society, reaching children for Christ has be come more and more difficult. Techniques that worked ten, twenty or thirty years ago have little effect on today's kids.

At the Spring 2002 Children's Teacher Training Seminar, we will examine where today's youth fit into society. What interest them? And, how can we break through the reach them for Christ?

Kyle Dowden, the Education Coordinator at Grant Avenue, hosts this three house event designed for teachers and workers in your children's department. Registration for this ministry training seminar is open through the day of the seminar. Cost for this semination is \$10 per person.

Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Churce is located at 1060 South Grant Avenue Springfield. For more details, directions, or register, call the church at 417-865-2450 on the web at <u>www.grantavenue.org</u>. The Spring 2002 Children's Teacher

## CENTRAL INSTALLS NEW PASTOR

by Larry Starnes, Deacon, and Rev.Alan Kinder, Pastor, Central Free Will Baptist Church

On Sunday, February 10, 2002, Central Free Will Baptist Church in Grandview, Missouri installed Rev. Alan Kinder as pastor. Rev. Kinder had been serving as assistant pastor at Heritage Free Will Baptist Church in Fredericksburg, VA. Previously, he had served in the United States Navy where he achieved the rank of Master Chief Petty Officer, retiring in January 2000 after serving 22 years.

Rev. Nathan Ruble, Executive Secretary of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists, preached the installation message and presided over the installation ceremony. During the ceremony members of the church presented several items to Rev. Kinder that were symbolic of the church's expectations of, and commitment to, the pastor. Among the items presented were a new Bible, symbolizing the truth that as children of God we need to receive teaching and preaching that is based on the Word of God. A book containing family pictures and biographical information about families in the congregation was to symbolize that God has given the new pastor a flock to shepherd and was intended to help him get to know the people. A basket of bread was presented to the pastor's family, symbolic of the time that the church plans to spend in fellowship with them. Other items were presented, accompanied by Scripture texts and explanations of the symbolism. Rev. Ruble also read a series of questions directed to the pastor and the congregation and their responses affirmed their commitment to work together, pray for one another, be faithful stewards, and to love and care for one another as Jesus loves and cares for the church.

An installation service for a new pastor is not a common practice among Free Will Baptists. The arrival of a new pastor, however, should mean more than entering into an employment agreement in which details of salary, housing allowance, expense accounts, vacation time and other details are agreed upon. Central's experience has been that the congrega-



### The Kinder family

tion and the pastors who have participated have believed strongly that a special installation service recognizes the significance of what God has done in bringing a pastor and his family together with a new congregation. A strong bond begins to build between pastor and people as they openly express before God their commitment to one another and their desire to do His will.

The installation service was followed by a fellowship meal providing people an opportunity to welcome their new pastor and his family. Rev. Kinder's family includes his wife, Sharon, and daughter, Denae.

#### From the Pastor's Perspective

The relationship between pastor and congregation is somewhat like a marriage. There are expectations and hopes, dreams and even some fears. There is sadness at the realization that one chapter of the life of a church has ended but excitement about what lies ahead. All of these emotions were present on Sunday. February 10, 2002. At least they were present in me. I had left behind a wonderful church family in Virginia, where for five years my family and I had been blessed with an opportunity to serve God. I realized that for the first time I was going to be called upon to meet the expectations of a congregation as 'the' pastor. I hoped I would be able to rise to the needs, I dreamed of building a ministry for God here that would surpass everyone's expectations, but I was fearful that this was going to overwhelm me in a short period of time.

The installation service for myself and my family represented not only an official recognition of my new status as pastor, it also represented to me the fact that I did have the support of the congregation. Because my family was included in the ceremony, I believe it has helped them make this difficult transition as well. For all of the dreams and hopes of a new pastor can go nowhere without the prayerful support of the congregation. The ceremony aided me in cementing in my mind that this church really did believe in me as their new pastor. What a feeling of freedom this has given me. I feel able to address any issue that might arise, knowing that the people have committed to praying for me and supporting the work of God in Grandview.

One last thought about the installation. As Bro. Ruble was preaching on that Sunday morning, I had the very distinct feeling that God was speaking to me through Bro. Ruble's message. Bro. Ruble was describing the installation of Aaron as the high priest, as recorded in Exodus 29. As he spoke, I began to feel the peace of God on my heart. You see, through all of the hustle and bustle of preparing for the move to Missouri, selling and buying homes, changing schools for our daughter, and the actual trip itself, I had almost forgotten what I was coming to Missouri for. In that message, God spoke to me and reminded me of my purpose for being here

What a privilege it has been in these past few weeks to begin building even stronger relationships with the people of 'my' church. The installation service was a tremendous way to start, and Lord willing we at Central will have many years together to remember that bright, cold Sunday in February of 2002, when we committed to serving God together for the sake of His kingdom.

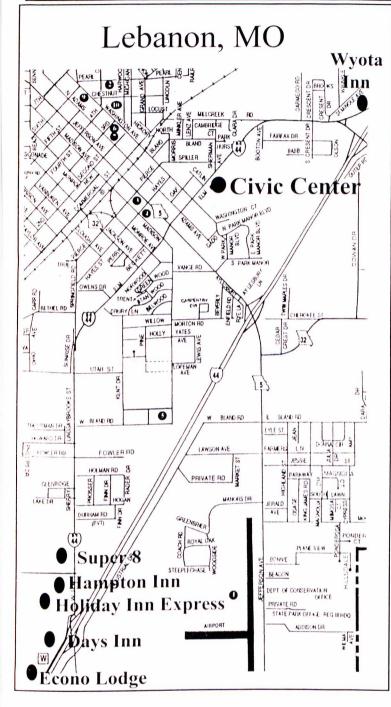
## Available for Pulpit Supply and Revivals

After 38 years of ministry, Rev. Milan Ruble has retired from pastoring and is now available for revivals and pulpit supply. He and his wife Marcella have served churches in the states of Washington, Idaho, and Missouri. Rev. Ruble recently resigned as pastor of the Verdella Free Will Baptist Church near Liberal where he has pastored for the past nine years.

The Rubles will be residing in Lebanon and may be contacted through the state office.



# **MOTEL INFORMATION FOR MISSOURI FREE WILL BAPTISTS STATE MEETING**



**Missouri Free Will Baptists Convention Cowen Civic Center** Lebanon, MO June 3 - 5, 2002



### Super 8 Motel

1831 West Elm- I44 Exit 127

Phone 417-588-2574 Reservations 1-800-800-8000

1 bed, 1-2 people \$48.34 + tax	
2 beds 1-2 people 52.14 + tax	
3 people 54.99 + tax	
4 people 57.84 + tax	
Children under 11 stay free	

Continental Breakfast

### Wvota Inn

Interstate 44 Exit 130 Phone 417-532-6171 Reservations 1-866-996-8246 Single - ..... \$52.00 + tax Double - ..... 55.00 + tax add \$5 for each additional person Restaurant Breakfast included in price of room



EXPRESS

### **Holiday Inn Express**

Holiday Inn 144 - Exit 127 1955 W. Elm St. Phone 417-532-1111 Reservations 1-800-465-4329 1-4 people ..... \$79.00 + tax Large Continental Breakfast

### **Hampton Inn**

930 Ivey Lane - 144 Exit 127 Phone 417-533-3100

Single ..... \$67.00 + tax Double ..... \$74.00 + tax Under 18 stay free Large breakfast Bar Senior Rate same as single

### **Days Inn**

144 - Exit 127 Phone 417-532-7111 Single ..... \$42.88 + tax Double ..... 46.88 + tax 3 - 4 people ..... 54.88 + tax These rates may vary as the new rate list was not available Continental Breakfast

### Econo Lodge

144 - Exit 127 Phone 417-588-3226 Single ..... \$35.95 + tax Double ...... 39.99+ tax These rates may vary as the new rate list was not available Continental Breakfast

# News From the Bunches

### Youth Camp

We returned last night from youth camp. We had a tremendous camp session. Something quite unusual happened. During the morning of the last day, three of the leaders and several teens went on a prayer walk. It was a good time of praise, worship and intervention for the closing sessions. Normally, as you know, the last day is when all the fence sitters make their decision. It was the same this year, except for the fact



men in college were there openly weeping be-

cause of sin and apathy. Then, one former youth

president asked to say something, he asked

public forgiveness from a person whom he had

offended. Another asked forgiveness for another

matter, others confessed sins, others confessed

their involvement in the church but that they did

not pray or study God's work. The time was a

good time of repentance and confession. Sev-

eral made salvation decisions and others were

called to different ministries. There were over

that when the invitation was given, several older teens (19-20) years old, came forward and were weeping profusely. In an instant there were nearly 80 young people in the alter, and there was deep conviction. Young

100 youth present.



**Children's Camp** 

Children's camp was held Feb. 27-March 2. There were 89 campers and over 30 helpers. Of the 89 campers, 27 made professions of faith in Christ. We had 13 campers from Chitre. One of them, who is a new addition to our Bible Club was saved also.





Brenda

worked with the puppets and did a great job. Amanda was the coordinator for all the youth helpers and the games and competition times and I (Stan) was a speaker, sound guy, pot washer and head banger in the after 11 pm sessions that weren't on the program, but take place at all camps.

### **News From the Pinkertons**

My water supply is lowering..it's been off since Sat. night..Electricity was off, but it returned Sunday afternoon.

Church yesterday was LLLOOONNNGG. Began at 8:30 but many, many special songs..these folks LLOOVVEE to sing. With the drums I can't hear the words, so just clap my hands. No lights, no fans (glad I took mine- to stir air & exercise one hand!) A very detailed, long testimony (Lady's hubby needed surgery..had two, but never got better..third surgery found a compress that had been left during previous surgery!)

Normally-what is normal?-church is out by 10:30. Reason being that Sunday is THE big market day in Bouna; women need to go to market. Noon meal can't be fixed

continued on page 9

### Missouri State CTS Competition May 10 - 11, 2002 Southwest Baptist University Bolivar, MO

The 2002 Missouri State Compet tion is just around the corner. South west Baptist University will be the sin for this year's competition. We're expect ing the largest number of entries ever-

Remember these rules: Individu contestants may enter <u>no more than thre</u> (3) categories and divisions, excludin Bible Competition entries. Any chur having four (4) or more entries in Mus and Arts Categories 1-9, <u>must</u> have least one Bible Competition entry the lowest level of competition.

Coaches and Sponsors need to thoroughly familiar with the **NYC Guic** *lines*. Copies of the *Guidelines* can obtained from the Lebanon Bible a Book Store (417) 532-9516.

Entry Fees for the competition sh

\$25.00 per single entry category \$45.00 per group entry (2-4 peop \$75.00 per group entry (5+ peopl The entry deadline is April 1

2002. Please use a separate form a each entry. Send entry forms and e propriate fees to:

Missouri Youth Ministries Bd. % First Free Will Baptist Church 2919 Kage Rd. Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 (573) 334-8461

### MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR CTS COMPETITION Super 8 Motel

PO Box 562 1919 S. Killingsworth Bolivar MO 65613 The rates are as follows 4 in room \$65.50 3 in room \$60.68 2 in room \$55.85 1 in room \$46.20 Continental breakfast

6

# National Youth Conference Competition Registration Form

CO	MPETITION CODES	1
Circ	le the appropriate information be-	
low	and write correct code numbers in	
	poxes in the top right-hand corner:	20
AGE	GROUP	20
A	Grades 1-3	
B C	Grades 4-6 Grades 7-9	
D	Grades 10-12	Name
	LE DIVISIONS	
0.11	Bible Memorization - Grade 1	
0.12	Bible Memorization - Grade 2	Name
0.13	Bible Memorization - Grade 3 Bible Memorization - Grade 4	
0.15	Bible Memorization - Grade 5	
0.16	Bible Memorization - Grade 6	Pasto
0.17	Bible Memorization - Grade 7	
0.18	Bible Memorization - Grade 8 Bible Memorization - Grade 9	
0.20	Bible Memorization - Grade 10	
0.21	Bible Memorization - Grade 11	Name
0.22	Bible Memorization - Grade 12	
0.40	Bible Sword Drill - Grade 4 Bible Sword Drill - Grade 5	
	Bible Sword Drill - Grade 6	Name
	Bible Tic Tac Toe	
	Bible Bowl	
	Truth Quest	
	SIC & ARTS	Con
	<b>al Solo</b> Vocal Solo (Age A - B)	1. Name
1.10	Male Vocal Solo (Age C - D)	Address
1.30	Female Vocal Solo (Age C - D)	
Voc	al Ensemble	City
	Duets	Phone
	Trios	2. Name
2.40	Quartets Ensemble with 5-12 members	Address
2.60	Ensembel with 13 or more members	-
	rumental Solo (non-keyboard)	City
	Woodwind	Phone
	Brass Stings (Bowed)	3. Name
	Strings (Plucked)	Address
3.50	Percussion	
Inst	rumental Ensemble	City
4.10	Duets, Trios, or Quartets	Phone
	Ensemble with 5 or more members	4. Name
	board Manual/Electronic Solo	Address
	Keyboard Ensemble	
	munication Arts	City
6.10	Famous Speech	Phone
	Preaching	5. Name
	Individual Drama Illustrated Storytelling	Address
	Group Drama	
	Puppetry (live)	City
	Puppetry (recorded)	Phone
	ative Writing	6. Name
	Short Story Essay	
	Poetry	Address
	tronic Media	City
8.10	Video	Phone
	Web Page Design	
	Powerpoint Presentation	
	ttive Arts Painting	
	Graphics	PARTI
	Three-Dimensional Art	I cer
	Photography	tition indi
	Fabricated Art Promotional Graphic Art	manner be
	Promotional Graphic Art Computer Art	PLEASE
		FORM
CON	APETITION FEES	10101

\$25.00	Per single entry category
\$45.00	per group entries of 2-4 people
\$75.00	per group entries of 5+ people

District-State-Na	ational
20 Record code numbers fro	om left column here 🔤 🔲 🗕 🗌 🖕
lame of participant or group (as you	want it to appear in the directory)
lame of Church	City State
'astor's Name	Pastor's phone number
lama of director (or coach)	Director's phone numbe
lame of director (or coach)	
lame of Association	Total Fee for this entry
	\$ .00
	,
	on for each participant in this entry:
Name	7. Name
Address	Address
TityStZip	City St Zip
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Name	10. Name
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PhoneBirthday Grade just completed	PhoneBirthdayGrade just completed
Name	11. Name
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Phone Birthday Grade just completed	PhoneB irthdayG rade just com pleted
Name	12. Name
Address	Address
ĩityStZip	CityStZip
Phone Birthday Grade just completed	PhoneBirthdayGrade just completed

For groups larger than 12, please use two forms to record additional information.

**CARTICIPANT'S PLEDGE** (to be signed by the individual participant or by the director (coach) of a group) I certify that the information on this form is correct and that I (or each group member) meet the requirements for competion indicated above as stated in the Guidelines for Competitive Activities, and I promise to conduct myself (or group) in a nanner becoming to a Christian and representative of my church, district, and state.

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH <u>ENTRY!</u>

**Please Print Plainly** 

Mail to: Missouri Youth Ministries Bd. % First Free Will Baptist Church 2919 Kage Rd. Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 Signature of Participant or Director (Coach)

Senior Adult Retreat Stonecroft Conference Center					
	Sessio		3 - 15		
	Sessio		15 - 17		
Speaker Frank Giun Clarence Br Lynn Wood	ta urton	-	The Ede	Singer e Keith Fa e Gospel die Vincen ncis Sim	amily Chords nt
Please Print Name					
Address		City		State	Zip
Church					
All Others \$10 per person despo		Sessi Sessi	l like to attend: (Plea on I - May 13 - 15 on II - May 15 - 17		
Please send registra SENIOR ADULT MI 2040 OSAGE ST. LEBANON, MO 655	NSTRIES BOARD	Staying with:			

# **Excerpt From McClure Newsletter**

We have been in the states since June, using this time to first seek God's will concerning our ministry and secondly try to supplement our support that has been declining. We had been struggling over this decision for a good deal of time. For the past four years we have been feeling a change in the Lord's leading. It was not until this past November, after much prayer and soul searching, we came to the decision not to return full time to Mexico for now...

At this time we are still seeking God's will concerning the ministry He wants to use us in. Please help us pray for wisdom and direction.

We are fully aware of the great blessing we have in you, our Christian friends. We know, beyond the slightest doubt, the things that have been accomplished would have been utterly impossible without your financial gifts and prayers. We truly count you as our special friend and co-laborer.

And, as such, we would like to ask a special favor. Because our support has not

been adequate to meet the needs of the mission, during the past nine years we have only been able to stay on the field by charging some of the mission's expenses on our own personal credit cards and personal loans. At this point we are still \$29,900.00 in the red. We have elected to pay off this indebtedness in phases. In the first phase, we have set a goal of \$11,500. Since we don't plan to return permanently to the field, we do plan to search out some form of work for our own personal expenses, but would like to continue receiving funds to help erase this deficit. In the meantime, of course, it will be necessary to use some of the funds for living expenses during this transitional period since we have only found part-time work. We would like to ask you to help us pray specifically for this need.

Let us state here, if you feel led to transfer your support to another missionary, we only want you to obey God's leading in it, and are truly grateful for all you have done for us. However, if you feel the Lord leading you to continue helping us to pay 0 these mission debts, be assured  $w \in W$ continue to keep you informed, on a qual terly basis. . .

Once again, let us say thank you. Yo all have been so faithful to our ministry du ing the nearly twenty years we were able serve the Lord in Mexico. It would be in possible to be able to tell you how muc you all have meant to us through the year And, because of you, there are sever people enjoying Heaven today, and mar more headed there. For us, when we a arrive over there together, one of the grea est joys we look forward to is to be able introduce you to the ones that are the because you cared for their souls.

If you have any questions you can  $e^{-m}$  me at johnrmcclure@mail.com or call f at 615-746-0881.

We love you all. Have a good year servil our Lord.

John and Paula McClu



HUNTER TO HEAD RANDALL HOUSE

Reverend Ron Hunter has been chosen by the Sunday School and Church Training Board as the new general director of Randall House Publications. He will serve as general director-elect from March 1 until August 15 when current General Director Dr. Alton Loveless will retire.

Brother Hunter served most recently as executive pastor of Cofer's Chapel FWB Church in Nashville. The Florida native was licensed to preach in 1984 and later ordained by the North Florida Association.

He is completing his MPA (Master of Public Administration) degree at Tennessee State University. He is a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College. He also completed a Military Science Program at Vanderbilt University as well as other extensive military training—U.S. Army Jump and Army Parachute Rigger Schools, Air Assault School, Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Warfare School and more. He was commissioned an Infantry Officer, 2nd Lieutenant, by the Secretary of the Army.

His denominational experience includes 11 years of pastoring in Florida and Tennessee, chairman of the Florida State Christian Education Board, assistant clerk of the Florida State Association, Mission Board chairman (Indian River Association) and Florida State Camp Board member. He serves as layout and designer for the Florida state paper (The Co-Ordinator). He is also the Creative Director of the denomination's Media Commission.

Brother Hunter brings a broad range of media and marketing skills to his new position. He was an owner-partner in The Advertising Agency, Inc., a full-service advertising agency. He also served as a news print advertising consultant and as an account executive with WTLH-TV FOX 49. Earlier, he served as hub supervisor for University Parcel Service. He was an academicAll-American in high school.

Ron and Pam (Stokes) Hunter have been married 14 years. They have two children—Michael (8) and Lauren (6).

# KENNETH AKERS TO LEAD MASTER'S MEN

Kenneth Akers, 44, was named general director of the Master's Men Department at the December 5, 2001 Master's Men Board meeting.

Brother Akers is an ordained minister who has served as the Director of Ministry Development for Master's Men since April of 2000. Prior to coming to work for Master's Men, he served in youth and men's ministry. Mr. Akers, a licensed optician, made a major commitment in joining the Master's Men Department. He sold Visual Fashions, a successful optical business in Crossville, Tennessee, that he owned and operated since 1983 in order to become a part of the Master's Men staff.

Tom Dooley, who announced his resignation at the December Board Meeting, said to the Master's Men Board in his report, "I know of no one who is better qualified or prepared to lead this ministry than Kenneth Akers."

Kenneth brings a variety of experiences and a tremendous amount of enthusiasm to this position. In the Master's Men newsletter, Brother Akers said, "I want to see the men of our denomination step up and be the spiritual leaders God expects. I believe when we as men serve God like we are capable, we will make a difference in our families, churches, and communities."

Kenneth and Sandra Akers, married 21 years, have two children, Brandon (19) and Ryan(16).

### **News Release**

Ashlee Powelka, a Free Will Baptist Bible College sophomore from Norfolk, Virginia, died in the Polston Hall women's dormitory sometime during the morning of March 1, 2002. The cause of death is currently unknown.

Ashlee was a Business Administration major. She was a member of the Virginia Beach (VA) Free Will Baptist Church and a graduate of Gateway Christian School. She was serving as Business Manager for the *Lumen*, the college's yearbook.

A service was held at the college to remember Ashlee and the richness of her life. Students shared their memories and celebrated the confidence that Ashlee is with the Lord.

Her funeral was held on March 4 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Members of the administration, staff, and student body, including President Tom Malone, attended.

## Worthington Book of Letters Planned

ANTIOCH, TN- The Executive Office staff is gathering materials for a book of letters honoring Dr. Melvin Worthington who retires this year after 23 years as executive secretary.

The tribute letters will be bound into a book and presented to Dr. Worthington when the national convention convenes in Memphis this July.

Denominational officials, state leaders, pastors and friends are invited to write letters of appreciation to be included in the book. Recall a special memory, an experience or other reminder about Dr. Worthington's tenure as a denominational servant.

Deadline to receive the letters for inclusion in the bound volume is June 4.

Please send the letters to: Worthington Tribute c/o Jack Williams, Executive Assistant P. 0. Box 5002 Antioch, TN 37011-5002

### Pinkertons continued from p. 6

until AFTER market.. Well, after all the singing, testimony.. two offerings AND many announcements, it was past 10:30 and then the preacher had his time. The sermon was a very good one..to make a long story shorter, it was 12 before I got home...hot, thirsty & wanting a shower. No electricity, no water, no shower!

Jerry had left the house at 7:30 Sun am picking up 4 Bible Institute students dropping them off at different FWB churches along the way as he continued to Doropo, attended services then returned picking the students, rice & other people for the return trip.. one lady rode the 9 miles back to her village. She had WALKED TO CHURCH that morning not knowing she'd get a ride back home. Would I be so faithful to attend? He got home about 1pm just as the electricity came back on! Whew! Fans, refig AND the computer..thank you Lord.

No water all day. It's Monday noon and still hasn't appeared. The Bible Institute & Andersons are on lower ground; they have water..we may take our empty buckets & fill up.

Classes going well at the Bible Institute. Jerry's doing his best to walk 3 miles most evenings..no trouble with his legs.

Thanks for helping us to be here through your prayers & gifts. Jerry & Carol Pinkerton

#### Killing in The Name...continued from page 1

### Dynamics of Spiritual... continued from page 1

comparison to the estimated 130 million killed in the name of the secular state during the 20th century by Hitler, Stalin, Mao, and others (Dr. D. James Kennedy and Jerry Newcombe, "What if Jesus Had Never Been Born?", Thomas Nelson, pp. 207, 209-219, 236: 1994).

Ravi Zacharias wrote that Hitler was influenced by the writings of Darwin and the German philosopher, Nietzsche. If humankind evolved as result of naturalistic causes there would be no deity to whom one would be accountable. Nietzsche taught that God is dead. "As Dostoevske said, if God is dead everything is justifiable."

Ravi Zacharias: "If I am merely the product of matter and at the mercy of material determinism, why should I subject myself to anyone else's moral convictions?

"If, on the other hand, I am fashioned by God for His purpose, then I need to know Him and know that purpose for which I have been made. for out of that purpose is born my sense of right and wrong" (Ravi Zacharias, "Can Man live Without God? W Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, pp. 22-23, 39-40, 1994).

Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31,32, NIV).

Worshin Service Averages

different kind of person ... Failure to act in certain, defr nite ways will guarantee that this transformation does not come to pass" .\* In other words, there are things for us to DO that Jesus DID that are emphasized by the Words and Deeds of Christ in the Scriptures which are instrumental and necessary for the mature development of our Christian life.

Careful examination of the life of Jesus indicates two general categories of spiritual disciplines for us to follow: The Disciplines of Abstinence: solitude, silence. fasting, frugality, chastity, secrecy, sacrifice; The Disch plines of Engagement: study, worship, celebration, prayer, fellowship, confession, submission. \* As we prac tice these disciplines we allow the grace of God to work more effectively in our lives to make us what God in tends for us to be. Grow in relationship with God by simply believing God and doing what Jesus did!

\* Dallas Willard, THE SPIRIT OF THE DISCIPLINES.

Worship Service Averages				
Novembe	-		-	2
Churches:	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Beacon	107	115	107	
Belton	43	56	46	48
Buffalo 1st	107	109	105	
Cabool	1997 <b>-</b> 1997	37	42	42
Calvary Chapel	265	240		
Calvary Fellowship	280	325	342	316
Cape Girardeau 1st		520	59	53
Copper Mines	47	49	43	48
Columbia	52	43	43	40 55
Crossroads-Lebanon	~~	85	82	50
Crossroads-Wentzville	65	68	73	72
De Soto	226	226	212	217
Hannibal	78	91	84	
Hannon	140	151	137	135
Harmony - Parkville	86	101	68	100
Hartville	182	202	189	197
Hopewell	40	202 35	189	197
Houston	40 69	35	38 61	C A
Hurryville	69 96	73 99		64
Joplin 1st	90		96	93
Lebanon 1st	131	101	92	100
Lebanon Tst Lebanon FWB	131	130 50	40	108
Lebanon FWB Macedonia- Purdy	51 159		48	100
Macedonia- Purdy Mill Creek	159 84	165	163	160
Mill Creek Mine LaMotte	84 34	80	85	88
		40		
Mt. Pisgah	75	73	0.5	0.0
Myrtle	32	29	30	33
New Life - Licking	68	75	82	
Oak Hill- Union	49	53	56	62
O'Fallon 1st	155	158	156	156
Oskaloosa	22	100		
Ozark 1st	149	180	177	
Pleasant Hill	27	32		26
Purdy	76		63	56
Richwoods	41	41	41	42
Rock Chapel	50	57	65	
Rolla 1st	35	32		
Springfield 1st	125	138	127	159
Sunnyview	45	45	45	47
Thayer	175	187	171	
Trinity	72	83	95	
United	514	554	584	570
Willow Springs-Mtn. Grov	ve 72	74	63	
This is only a partial listir	ng. There a		3 Churches	
Each church is encourag				
10				

#### February 2002 **Financial Report Cooperative Disbursements** BI February 2002 ..... \$54,950.58 Bu Ca 18.50%MiOHome Missions . \$10,165.86 Ca 17.00%Executive Office ......... 9,341.60 Ca 3.00%General Fund ..... 1,648.52 Ca .50%Show-Me Plan ...... 274.75 Ca 8.50%Youth Camp Board ..... 4,670.80 Ce

3.00% Y. C. Restricted Fds 1,648.52
2.00% Youth Ministries Bd 1,099.01
2.00% Christian Education Bd 1,099.01
2.00% Senior Adult Min Bd 1,099.01
9.00% State Retirement 4,945.55
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31.50% 17,309.43
National Ministries, Hillsdale and
California Christian College
Foreign Missions Board
National Home Missions Board
Same Allocation
Free Will Baptist Bible College
HillsdaleFWB College
Executive Department
Layman's Board
Radio & TV Commission
Theological Commission
Historical Commission
Board of Retirement & Insurance
1.00% California Christian College
3.00% Show-Me Plan 1,648.52
Total\$54,950.58

### Co-op

Amity	\$122.87
Aulsbury Chapel	\$104.62
Bailey	\$225.00
Bailey Chapel	\$364.00
Belton	\$335.20
Berean	\$42.00
Bethel- El Dorado Springs	\$98.36
Bethel- Northview	\$380.00

	\$491.
Black Oak	\$100.00
Buttalo 1st	- 1G1 F
Buffalo 1st Cabool Cabool	\$321.9
Cabool	\$1.347.4
Cabool Calvary Chapel Cape Girardeau	\$694.4
Cape Girardeau	\$305.0
Carthage	-0150
Carthage Central Chapel of the Ozarks	\$265.3
Central Chapel of the Ozarks Christ Chapel Clifton	\$348.7
Christ Chapel	\$50.4
Christ Chapel Clifton Columbia Copper Mines	\$493.7
Columbia	\$266.8
Columbia Copper Mines Cornerstone Crossroads- Wentzville	\$346.1
Cornerstone	\$699.0
Cornerstone Crossroads- Wentzville	\$2 570.0
Crossroads- Wentzville Crossroads-Lebanon Cuba Desoto 1st	\$505.0
Cuba Desoto 1st Emmanuel- Col	¢1 400.0
Desoto 1st Emmanuel- Col Faith & Hope- Aurora	\$165.
Emmanuel- Col	\$41.5
Emmanuel- Col Faith & Hope- Aurora Faith & Hope- Willow Springs	¢104.2
Faith & Hope- Willow Springs	2 338.2
Faith & Hope- Aurora Faith & Hope- Willow Springs Farmington 1st Fordland	\$2,094.8
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Fourth Fredericktown 1st Freeman Chapel	··· \$278.0
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Koshkonona	\$ 225.5
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Lebanon	\$304 07
Lebalion 1st	\$065 00
Lone Star	\$47 50
Macedonia- Niangua	¢75 50
Marshfield	\$272.00
Merls Chapel	\$273.00
Mill Creek	\$142.00
Mine LaMotta	\$507.66
Mine LaMotte	\$91.50
Monett 1st	\$512.33
Mt. Pisgah	\$402.00
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Mull. Grove 1st	C1 E20 10
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Oak Grove- Mtn. Grove	\$146.33
Oak Hill	\$222.64
Oak Hill	. \$1,360.61
O'Fallon Olivet	. \$1,273.00
Ozark 1st Park Hills 1st	. \$1,377.45
Park Hills 1st Parkview	\$584.48
Parkview Pleasant Hill	\$496.60
Pleasant Hill	\$144.19
Pleasant Home Pleasant Bidgo	\$191.60
Pleasant Ridge Potosi 1st	\$73.00
Potosi 1st Republic	\$196 77
Republic	\$100.00
Richwoods 1st Rock Chapel	\$569.00
Rock Chapel Rolla 1st	\$337.87
Rolla 1st Royal Oak	\$185.00
Royal Oak Seymour	
Seymour Smyrna	\$94.00
Smyrna South Fremont	\$472.00
South Fremont	\$60.00
Springfield 1-1	\$472.00
St. Francoia A	\$1,043.92
St. Peter's	\$39.00
Stockton	\$479.00
haver	\$817.20
Frinity	\$856.00
Union Grove Union Light	\$945.35
Union Line	\$378.00
Union Light	\$227.00
United	\$1,459,90
Unity	\$350.00
Verdella	\$604 95
Viburnum Victory- Alton	\$907 10
Victory- Alton Waynesville	\$200 50
Waynesville	\$503.30
West Plains 1st	\$505.39
VVIIderne	\$700.00
WIIIOW O .	5955.00
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Wolf Creek	\$390.34
Total	54,950.58

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Barker D-	n
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Belton	15.00
Derean \$1	65.00
Delly D	30.00
Deinel - FLD	15.00
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OldCk Oak	45.00
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Salvany CL	05 00
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- OUDProti	15 00
Cross Roads - Lebanon	60.00
Cuba\$	42.00

Darnell, W.	\$15.00
DeSoto 1st	\$552.50
DeSoto 1st - Auditorium Class	\$15.00
Faith - St. Louis	\$30.00
Faith & Hope - W.S.	\$120.00
Farmington 1st	\$815.00
Fordland	\$250.00
Fourth	C1E0.00
Fredericktown 1st	\$130.00
Freeman Chapel Garrett, R.	\$15.00
Garrett, R.	1 000 00
Gospel Light \$ Grace	\$864.00
Grace Graham, S	\$30.00
Graham, S Grant Ave	\$275.00
Greater Springfield Assn	\$92.00
Greenfield	\$180.00
Hannon\$	1 250.00
Harmony - Parkville	\$113.62
Hartville	\$240.00
Hastings, H	\$15.00
Houston 1st	\$308.00
Humavillo	\$300.00
Hurrwille Sr Adult S.S. Class	\$17.00
lackson	\$40.00
Ionlin 1st	\$75.00
Leadington	\$180.00
Leadington	\$231.00
Lebanon 1st	\$150.00
Lebanon F.W.B.	\$30.00
Macadonia - Purdy	4.000.00
Maggart D	\$45.00
Matthews, G	\$45.00
Merl's Chapel	\$200.00
Mill Creek	\$140.00
Mill Creek C. W. F Mill Creek Young Adult S.S.C	¢15.00
Mill Creek Young Adult S.S.C Mine La Motte	\$75.00
Mine La Motte Missouri WAC \$	1 233 59
Missouri WAC   Monett 1st	\$340.00
Mountain Grove 1st	\$395.00
Mouser, J.	\$60.00
Mt. Pisgah	\$75.00
Mt. Zion - Thayer	. \$30.00
Myrtle	
	\$75.00
Neosho 1st	\$75.00 \$195.00
Neosho 1st	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$105.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$105.00 \$718.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$105.00 \$718.00 \$375.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$105.00 \$718.00 \$375.00 \$15.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament Nee D	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$105.00 \$718.00 \$375.00 \$15.00 \$15.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament Noel , D Oak Grove - Houston	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$105.00 \$718.00 \$375.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$30.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament Noel , D Oak Grove - Houston Oak Hill - Union	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$105.00 \$718.00 \$375.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$30.00 \$20.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament Noel , D. Oak Grove - Houston Oak Hill - Union O'Eallon 1st	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$105.00 \$718.00 \$375.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$30.00 \$20.00 \$214.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament Noel , D. Oak Grove - Houston Oak Hill - Union O'Fallon 1st	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$105.00 \$718.00 \$375.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$30.00 \$20.00 \$214.00 \$15.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament Noel , D. Oak Grove - Houston Oak Hill - Union O'Fallon 1st Olivet	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$105.00 \$105.00 \$718.00 \$375.00 \$15.00 \$30.00 \$30.00 \$20.00 \$214.00 \$15.00 \$85.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament Neel , D. Oak Grove - Houston Oak Hill - Union O'Fallon 1st Olivet Dark 1st	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$105.00 \$718.00 \$375.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$30.00 \$214.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$20.00 \$214.00 \$20.00 \$214.00 \$30.00 \$245.35
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament Noel , D. Oak Grove - Houston Oak Hill - Union O'Fallon 1st Olivet Park Hills 1st	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$1150.00 \$3718.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$20.00 \$214.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$85.00 \$82.45.35 \$15.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament Noel , D. Oak Grove - Houston Oak Hill - Union O'Fallon 1st Olivet Dzark 1st Park Hills 1st Parker, G.	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$718.00 \$718.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$30.00 \$214.00 \$15.00 \$85.00 \$245.35 \$15.00 \$15.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament Noel , D. Oak Grove - Houston Oak Hill - Union O'Fallon 1st O'Fallon 1st Ozark 1st Park Hills 1st Parker, G. Parkview - Desloge	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$718.00 \$375.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$20.00 \$214.00 \$15.00 \$85.00 \$245.35 \$15.00 \$318.90 \$45.00
Neosho 1st New Home - Hartville New Hope - Fredericktown New Life - Licking New Life - Monett New Testament Noel , D. Oak Grove - Houston Oak Hill - Union O'Fallon 1st Olivet Dark 1st Park Hills 1st Parker, G. Parkview - Desloge Pinkerton, J. Pleasant Grove - Anderson	\$75.00 \$195.00 \$150.00 \$15.00 \$375.00 \$15.00 \$15.00 \$20.00 \$214.00 \$15.00 \$85.00 \$245.35 \$15.00 \$318.90 \$45.00 \$135.00 \$15.00
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Walnut Grove	\$15.00
Waynesville 1st	\$458.25
White, R.	\$15.00
Wilderness	
Willow Springs - Mtn. Grove	\$103.50
Willow Springs 1st	
Total	. \$27,195.54

#### Foreign Missions

Foreign missions	
Calvary Chapel - Buffalo	. \$4,000.00
Central	\$30.00
Chapman, A	\$20.00
Cuba	\$28.40
Farmington 1st	\$17.50
Fordland	\$10.00
Fredericktown 1st	\$20.00
Gospel Light	\$80.00
Grant Ave	\$40.00
Harmony Fellowship (Colorad	lo) . \$15.00
Hickory Grove	\$66.24
Houston 1st	\$40.00
Lewis, D.	\$10.00
Macedonia - Purdy	. \$5,000.00
Matthews, A	\$15.00
Minor, K	\$10.00
Neosho 1st	\$25.00
New Home - Lebanon	\$100.00
New Testament	\$80.00
Park Hills 1st	\$5.00
Springfield 1st	\$10.00
Thayer	\$10.00
Trinity	\$219.94
West Plains 1st	\$25.00
Total	. \$9,877.08

### State Home Missions

Cook, H	\$10.00
Desoto 1st	\$90.00
Desoto 1st Childrens Church	\$40.00
Gospel Light	\$80.00
Grace	\$40.00
Lebanon Bible & Bookstore	\$330.00
Macedonia- Purdy	\$750.00
Merls Chapel	\$10.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	\$25.00
Myrtle	\$88.00
O'Fallon	\$67.50
Ozark 1st	\$10.00
Pleasant Ridge	\$20.00
Skiles, D	\$88.00
Thayer	\$60.00
Trinity	\$47.27
United	\$25.00
Warren, L.	\$50.00
Waynesville	\$50.00
White, R	\$10.00
Wormington, L	\$30.00
Total	\$1,920.77

### Youth Camp

10.00
10.00
20.00
204.40
224.70
10.00
55.00
10.00
10.00
10.00
180.00
10.00
55.00
50.00
55.00
10.00
\$1 068 10
\$1,068.10

### Camp Development Fund

Myrtle	24.00
Rock Chapel	280.00
O'Fallon	500.00
Houston 1st	100.00
Total	\$904.00

#### Free Will Baptist Bible College

Cabool 1st	. 152.16
Ruble, Nathan	<u>15</u> .00
Cornerstone	50.00
Ozark 1st	30.00
Verdella	. 120.99
DeSoto 1st	40.00
Total	\$408.15

#### Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College

Farmington 1st	. 147.84
Thayer	
Grant Avenue	
Hannon	. 100.00
Joplin 1st	75.00
Indian Creek Association(Have	
658.00	
Neosho 1st	50.00
Total \$7	

#### Southeastern Free Will Baptist

College	
Springfield 1st	
Total	

#### C. E. Board

Lebanon Bible &	<b>Book Store</b>	130.00
Total		\$130.00

### Senior Adult Ministries

Lebanon	Bible &	Book	Store	 130.00	
Total				\$ 130.00	

#### Youth Ministries Board

Lebanon Bib	e & Book Store	130.00
Total		\$130.00

#### Trula Cronk Home for Children

Myrtle	1.00
New Life- Monett	204.40
New Life- Monett	224.70
Hannon	100.00
Unity	20.00
New Hope	30.00
DeSoto 1st	55.00
Stephens, T	10.00
Bethel- El Dorado Springs	10.00
Purdy 1st	71.94
Total	\$727.04

#### **Rev. John McClure**

Carthage	
Central Western	Ladies Auxiliary . 30.00
Ozark 1st	
Monett 1st	170.00
Purdy 1st	
West Plains 1st	15.00
Total	\$297.50

#### **Cornerstone FWB Church**

(Brian Brinkoff)	
New Testament	
Total	\$10.00

### Vergel Maness

Gospel Light	
Grace	100.00
Total	\$180.00
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	

### Indian Bible College

(Richard Standley)	
Chapman, A	10.00
Total	\$10.00
Total	11

MISSOURI STATE ASSN. OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS 202 West Commercial P.O. Box 991 Lebanon, MO 65536

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101