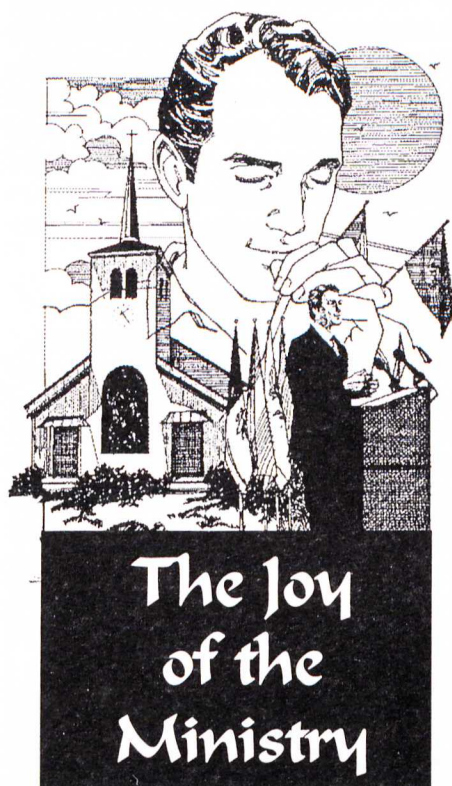


THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

*September 8th
is
Pastor
Appreciation
Sunday*

Volume 73 • Number 8

August 2002



Jack Williams

When you sample the whole crop, preachers win the blue ribbon as the happiest people in the world. This may surprise those who equate ministers with long faces and longer sermons, but preachers know where to find the laugh, in life.

They are sure of their calling. They lead the pack in knowing the will of God. They spread good news in a culture gone bad.

But I suspect that what puts the

twinkle in a minister's eye is that he uses his spiritual gifts in the body of Christ. Others in the church may shelve their abilities, but the preachers calling goes on display frequently and publicly.

He exercises his gifts for the few and the many all day Sunday, and between Sundays when he counsels, teaches and sets the example for the community.

While it is true that from time to time you meet ministers who tiptoe through life like hot-air balloons at a porcupine convention, pound for pound preachers are the most contented people in the kingdom.

Most preachers like one another. Although competition between them gets more ink than their mutual respect, I have discovered that preachers trust each other and would rather be around other preachers than anybody else.

Preachers love people. Literature on ministerial burnout scared a lot of preachers in the last three years. But it is my opinion that the majority of preachers, while overworked, are not looking for the exit signs.

They unselfishly make themselves available to people. Check out the fellow who has offended everybody within 10 miles of his home, and you will usually find some preacher who visits him, prays for him, and calls him "friend."

Preachers work to make their communities better. You do not have to worry about the preacher burning down

the local high school. Wherever a minister lives, you know that he gives his best to promote what is good and right in the community.

Preacher's talk a lot, but then they have a lot to say. They shake more hands than politicians and knock on more doors than the Fuller Brush man. There is a reason for their methods; they will do anything short of illegal to reach people.

Just because a minister weeps, do not assume that he is unhappy or mistreated by the Lord. To the contrary, he loves people in God's world so much that he weeps when they have so little when he knows they could have it all in Christ.

A minister is the most accountable man in the community. He is accountable to God first and foremost. He cannot change that, and no one in the community is at liberty to tamper with the arrangement.

However, the minister is also accountable to every member of his congregation. Each member feels that the pastor is personally responsible to him. Never have so few been so accountable to so many for so much.

But ministers are happiest when they are preaching. Every sermon has at least three parts - the same three parts.

Part one is hard work. Some nurse

continued on page 5

Trinity Celebrates 40 years

1962 - 2002

Trinity Free Will Baptist Church of Bridgeton, Missouri, held a five day celebration to commemorate forty years of ministry. The celebration began with a three day revival. Former pastors, Millard Sasser, Mike Garner, and Lynn Davenport, were the evangelists. Saturday was fun day as the church hosted a carnival. Well over two hundred people gathered for Sunday services presided over by Harold Bailey. The Sunday School hour was given over to special music and greetings from the former pastors and Sister Elaine Spurgeon Caskey, the former wife of the founding pastor Russel Spurgeon. Bro. Spurgeon was killed in a plane crash in 1980. Sister Elaine was the only charter member present.

During the morning worship service, the Trinity Women Active for Christ honored the pastor's wives. Each of the ladies were thanked for their special ministries to the church and were presented a corsage. The church's own acapella quartet and men's quartet provided special music for the morning worship service. Executive Secretary Nathan Ruble delivered the anniversary message. He also commended the church on its forty years of faithful ministry.

A great time of fellowship continued as the congregation moved to the beautifully decorated fellowship hall of the church. The church served a delicious luncheon while folks reminisced.

The afternoon service gave time for testimonies and the viewing of a slide show as the congregation viewed old photos and tried to remember the names of all those pictured.

Trinity Church in Bridgeton stands as a living testimony of what God can do through a group of dedicated laymen with a vision born of faith.

In January 1962, the Third Free Will Church of inner-St. Louis was notified by the State Highway Department that

their property was marked for highway construction. They searched for a suitable sight to relocate. The Southside Free Will Baptist Church was located only 3 miles away. The Holy Spirit led in a plan for the two congregations to merge and begin a new work for the Lord in suburbia. Third Church's pastor, Rev.

Russel Spurgeon, had served only three years before the church was notified to move. The decision to merge, therefore, resulted in five suburban families calling Rev. Spurgeon as pastor of their new mission in a rapidly developing suburb of St. Louis called Bridgeton. The five families were: Bill and Opal Hughes, Art and Blanche Francis, Carvie and Lucy Warden and daughter Dormalee, Roy and Marie Rodgers, and Bill and Lois DePriest, and children Dennis, Debby, and Sharon. The pastor's family members were Russel, his wife, Elaine, and two daughters, Jean Ann and Carol. Bill, Art, and Carvie were deacons at Third Church and were, therefore, the first deacons at Trinity.

In June 1962, the tiny congregation promptly acquired four acres of a choice site after financial and property arrangements were made. Their first service was held in the garage of Bill Hughes, chairman of the Deacon Board. Thirteen adults and five children were in attendance.

God continued to bless the Trinity congregation. The first building on the new property was dedicated January 27, 1963, with Dr. W.S. Mooneyham as the guest speaker. More space was soon needed for the growing congregation and a second building was constructed and dedicated in November 1965 with Dr. Billy Melvin as the guest speaker. In January 1969, the church took a giant step as they made the de-



L/R Rev. and Mrs. Michael Garner and children; Elaine (Spurgeon) Caskey; Rev. and Mrs. Lynn Davenport; Rev. and Mrs. Millard Sasser

cision to build a two-level sanctuary to seat 525 people. Dr. Robert Picirilli officiated at the dedication of this new sanctuary in March 1970.

The church suffered a great loss on September 17, 1980, as pastor Russel Spurgeon was killed in a plane crash. He left a great legacy of dedication and service which continues to be reflected in the church today. Trinity church is resolved to be a beacon light for rescuing the lost and giving encouragement to believers in this new millennium.

Thank you Pastor!

A family from the Olivet Free Will Baptist Church in Marshall stopped by the state office today. They told me how much they appreciated their pastor and his wife and what a great job he was doing. They asked me to say Thank you Jerry and Waynelle Scott on behalf of the congregation of the Olivet Free Will Baptist Church.

All items for publication must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 5th of the month preceding the issue month. Business Office: 202 West Commercial, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, Missouri 65536, Nathan Ruble, Editor. Address all correspondence relating to the GEM, including subscription and mailing information, to the above address. The sermons and articles published in the GEM represent the personal views of the authors and not necessarily the views and policies of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists or of the editor. Subscription rates: Single subscription, \$4.50 per year, cash in advance. Church Plan, \$4.00 per year, consisting of five subscriptions or more. The Church Plan will continue until it is canceled by the church. This magazine is published monthly.

New Life Honors Clarence and Melva Watson

The New Life Free Will Baptist Church in Licking held its annual "Harold Price Sunday" on Father's Day. Harold Price Sunday, named for the first recipient, is a day when the church honors a leader of the church that has impacted the ministry of the church.

This year two people were honored. The 2002 honorees, Clarence and Melva Watson, were surprised when Pastor Max Courtney called their name and begin to recount the many ways they have labored for the Lord and the church. They are charter members of the church and Pastor Courtney stated, "In reading the minutes of this church from the beginning, we find these names, Clarence and Melva Watson, listed over and over as they faithfully served their Lord through the New Life Free Will Baptist Church. The recent minutes of the church also show that, although they, like we all, have slowed down just a bit because of age, their names are still in almost every copy of the minutes. They are still serving the Lord and the Church. In fact, if you will look closely, you will find that now Melva is the church clerk along with her position as Teen Sunday School class teacher.

Executive Secretary Nathan Ruble presented the couple a beautiful plaque on behalf of the church. Their daughters, Judy and Jan, commended them for being loving parents who set the right example for their children. Pastor Courtney presented each of the honorees a new Bible. They also were given a concordance and a Bible dictionary. Gifts, words of praise, and enthusiastic applause helped to honor the deserving couple.

Nathan Ruble delivered the morning message and a time of fellowship was enjoyed following the morning service.



**Ruth and Max Courtney with
Clarence and Melva Watson**

Ten Baptized at Cross Roads Church

Russell McDaris, pastor of the Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, Richland, baptized ten in a baptismal service held at the Hull Ford on the Osage Fork of the Gasconade River June 2, 2002. Pictured L/R front row: Ashliegh Dublin, Josh Cansler, Dallas Dublin, Austin Harris, Ben Cansler and Pastor McDaris. Back Row: Gavin Piercy, Savannah Cansler, Bonnie Yates, Michael Adams (holding Megan Adams), and Beau Harris. In the group there are two sets of twins, Ashliegh and Dallas Dublin, and Ben and Josh Cansler.

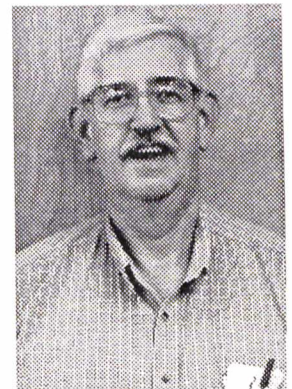


Warren Livingston

Warren Livingston Retires

After 21½ years Warren Livingston, manager of the Lebanon Bible and Book Store, retired June 28th. He was honored during the state meeting with a new set of golf clubs, a membership to the Phillipsburg golf course, and a plaque. During his tenure as manager, the store has experienced a steady increase in sales. Two years ago his wife, Ann, passed away. God has graciously given him another companion. On July 5th he was united in marriage to Mary Leonia Alexander. They will be making their home in Licking, Missouri. We wish them the very best.

The State Executive Committee selected Dennis Jones to replace Bro. Warren as manager of the store. Dennis has worked at the Book Store for 23 years.



Dennis Jones



Rev. and Mrs. R.E. Helsley

through-out the day. R. E. Helsley and Rose Faye Young were united in marriage June 8, 1952, at the Wolf Creek Freewill Baptist Church by Rev. Ray Letsinger. R. E. and Rose have faithfully served as pastor for area churches around Mansfield and held many revivals in the past 40 years. This was a day that will always be fondly remembered. by R. E. and Rose and their family.

R.E. and Rose Helsley Celebrate 50th Anniverssary

Kathy Garrison

Rev. and Mrs. R. E. Helsley celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 8, 2002. The celebration was hosted by their children and grandchildren at the Lions Hall in Mansfield, MO. They were honored by a host of family, friends, fellow

ministers and their wives



**L/R Kathy Garrison (daughter),
Rose Helsley, R.E. Helsley**



Rev. Bill Eden With the Lord

Willie Martin (Bill) Eden, son of James Andrew Monroe and Martha Frances Farris Eden, was born September 26, 1924, near Hartville, Missouri. He departed this life Thursday, July 4, 2002, in Christian Healthcare South in Lebanon, Missouri, at the age of seventy-seven years, nine months, and eight days.

Bill served his country during world war II. He returned to Hartville, Missouri, after the war where he farmed and worked as an electrician. God called him to preach and he was ordained to the

ministry in November 1960. Bro. Eden pastored churches in Seymour, Hartville, Lebanon, Belton, Cassville, Salem, and Sunnyview, Missouri, and in Wichita and Milan, Kansas.

His funeral services were held at the Hartville Free Will Baptist Church. Rev. Howard Anderson and Rev. Nathan Ruble officiated. He was buried at the Little Creek Cemetery near Hartville.

Bro. Bill is survived by his wife of fifty-five years, Mary Sue, of the home; a son and daughter-in-law, Ivan and Patty Eden, of Lebanon, Missouri; a daughter and son-in-law, Diana and Rev. Howard Anderson of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; four grand-children and three great-grand-children



Fishin' for Missions

**AT TRUMAN LAKE, OSAGE
BLUFF MARINA**

**\$100 Entry Fee Per Boat
Rod/Reel only; Live or artificial
Bait; Any legal game fish**

PRIZES TO BE ANNOUNCED

**August 17, 2002
Beginning at 8 a.m.**

**CALL BRUCE MOORE
TO REGISTER
967-4222**

ALL BOARDS MEETING PREACHER/LAYMAN'S RETREAT

**September 9, 2002
Camp Niangua**

Monday, September 9

10:00 a.m (tee time).....Golf Tournament
Golf Tournament - Heritage 66 Golf Course Phillipsburg, MO

5:30 p.m.....Evening Meal
6:30 p.m - 7:15 p.m.....Rev. Jerry Norris
7:15 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.....Rev. Jerry Norris
8:00 p.m.....Boards Meet



Guidelines For Golf Tournament

2 Man Scramble

3 Trophies will be awarded for the tournament

A trophy each to first place finishers

A trophy each to second place finishers

A trophy for the ball closest to the hole off the tee on # 2, par 3

REGISTRATION FOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

Name _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____

Each participant will pay his own green fee.

Dale Skiles will be in charge of the Golf Tournament

Mail registration form to:

Rev. Dale Skiles

4534 McCullough

Springfield, MO 65804

Joy of the Ministry - from page one

the mistaken idea that because a man has preached for 15 years he can step into the pulpit on a moment's notice without prior preparation and speak extemporaneously with the authority of John the Baptist. Believe me, it does not work that way. It sometimes takes an hour of preparation for five minutes of presentation in the pulpit. This means that a Minister prepares from five to 20 hours just to preach one sermon!

Part two is loneliness. There is no loneliness quite like that which washes over the minister just before he enters the pulpit. No matter how well he has researched, prepared and prayed, the

minister knows he is beyond human help once he steps forward to preach. If God does not grant him grace and a clear mind, he will fall flat on his face.

Part three is ecstasy. The ecstasy unfolds during and immediately after the sermon. No man is ever so alive as the minister in full stride preaching a sermon. Every sense is alert: heart pounding, mind clear, brain racing from thought to thought, from word to word, from experience to experience, weaving an incredible garment of truth that startles some hearers and angers others.

Hearing a great sermon revolutionizes a church. Preaching a great ser-

mon is the nearest thing to inspiration since John left Patmos.

Somewhere in this world, God has a special minister for you and your family. He is worthy of your prayers and your support. He probably pastors the church where you attend.

About the author: Jack Williams is editor of Contact magazine and Executive Assistant to Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington. This article was first published in Contact magazine August 1984, and then was published in Pulpit Helps July 1985. Used by permission of the author.

WINNERS - 2002 Missouri State

C.T.S. Competition

BIBLE MEMORIZATION

0.11	David Easley	Beacon
0.12	Laura Stecher	Beacon
0.13	Gillian Moon	Hartville
0.14	Ashely Applegate	Willow Springs
0.15	Jeanetta Baumer	Hartville
0.16	Christine Harkey	Hartville
0.17	Stephanie Hurst	Springfield 1st
0.18	Leanna Baumer	Hartville

BIBLE SWORD DRILL

0.40	Austin Jackson	Fenton
0.50	Tadd Wagner	Carthage
0.60	Christine Harkey	Hartville

BIBLE TIC TAC TOE

0.70	Verdella Tic Tac Toe	Verdella
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BIBLE BOWL

0.80	Hartville Bible Bowl	Hartville
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TRUTH QUEST

0.90	Michelle Anderson	Calvary Fellowship
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VOCAL SOLO

AGE GROUP

A	Justin Hines	Farmington 1st
B	Katie Grechus	Farmington 1st

MALE VOCAL SOLO

C	Dwight Trollinger	Farmington 1st
D	Byron McKay	Verdella

FEMALE VOCAL SOLO

C	Sarah Bastings	Carthage
D	Brandi Bailey	Fellowship

VOCAL ENSEMBLE

B	Cousins Duet	Beacon
C	2-4-Christ	Verdella
D	Kayla & Derek Craft	Harmony

ENSEMBLE - 5 - 12 MEMBERS

B	Kids Time Chorale	Beacon
D	Calvary Praise Team	Calvary Fellowship

ENSEMBLE - 13 OR MORE MEMBERS

	Hartville Choir	Hartville 1st
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INSTRUMENTAL SOLO (non keyboard)

WOODWIND

C	Teddie Collier	Springfield 1st
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BRASS

C	Kelly McKay	Verdella
D	Hanna Williams	Verdella

STRINGS BOWED

B	Phillip Easley	Beacon
C	Stephanie Hurst	Springfield 1st

STRINGS PLUCKED

C	Drew Kernan	Fellowship
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PERCUSSION

A	Wade Sprenkle	Verdella - Liberal
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INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE -- DUETS, TRIOS & QUARTETS

C	Hartville Duet	Hartville
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INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE WITH 5 OR MORE MEMBERS

D	Carthage Chimers	Carthage
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KEYBOARD SOLO

A	Joel Williams	Carthage
B	Katelyn Simpson	Hannon
C	Derrek Wilson	Verdella

KEY BOARD ENSEMBLE

	Kaleb Jesse & Katherine Fry	Mountain Grove 1st
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FAMOUS SPEECH

B	Tadd Wagner	Carthage
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PREACHING

D	Jordan Cain	Mountain Grove 1st
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INDIVIDUAL DRAMA

A	Rachel Anderson	Calvary Fellowship
B	Jessica Petit	Calvary Fellowship
C	Trey Petit	Calvary Fellowship
D	Jeanette Wilson	Verdella

Illustrated Storytelling

B	Amanda Brinkhoff	Carthage
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GROUP DRAMA

A	Fellowship Children's Ministry	Gr. 1 Fellowship
B	Kaleb Jesse & Zachary Hurtt	Mountain Gr 1st
D	Calvary Teen For Christ	Calvary Fellowship

PUPPETRY (Recorded)

A	Hannon Puppeteers	Hannon
B	Hannon Puppeteers	Hannon
C	Trinity Puppeteers	Trinity
D	Hannon Puppeteers	Hannon

CREATIVE WRITING(Poetry)

B	Caleb Parker	Calvary Fellowship
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ELECTRONIC MEDIA (Powerpoint Presentation)

A	Laura Stecher	Beacon
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CREATIVE ARTS

PAINTING

A	Johanna Brinkhoff	Carthage
C	Sarah Dotson	West Plains 1st

GRAPHICS

A	Joel Williams	Carthage
C	Samantha Hajek	Trinity
D	Paul Hempen	Calvary Fellowship

THREE-DIMENSIONAL ART

A	Sarah Jones	Calvary Fellowship
C	Samantha Williams	Carthage

PHOTOGRAPHY

A	Elynn Hurtt	Mountain Grove 1st
B	Amanda Brinkhoff	Carthage
C	Sarah Hill	O'Fallon
D	Ashley Matlock	O'Fallon

FABRICATED ART

A	Johanna Brinkhoff	Carthage
B	Amanda Brinkhoff	Carthage

PROMOTIONAL GRAPHIC ART

A	Mikaela	Mountain Grove 1st
B	Tadd Wagner	Carthage

COMPUTER ART

A	Kirsten Wagner	Carthage
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GREETINGS FROM THE WESTPORT FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH IN JEFFERSON CITY, MO

The Lord has truly been blessing this new mission work in Jefferson City. This month the Lord has sent five new families to our church, giving us a high attendance of 19 for the month of June. This is great when you remember that we started with only our family. We believe that God will send us many more families in the future. We have outgrown our home and are holding services in office space on 1906 Bubba Lane through September 13. (Those who know me will laugh, as I do, each time I hear the address.) We are convinced we will soon outgrow this facility also. Most of the families that are attending our services have small children. One challenge that we need to overcome will be finding class space for these children. We need your prayers and support that God will continue to bless us with families and a location where we can continue to grow.

Many people have mentioned that they have friends and family in the area. We would love to have their names and addresses and add them to our congregation. We sent letters to each church in the state. However, several were returned to us with invalid addresses. If your church did not receive a letter, please contact us with the correct address and we will add you to our mailing list.

As you can see, there is a definite need for a Free Will Baptist Church here in Jefferson City. We are thankful that God is using our family to begin this work. These families hold tremendous poten-



Missionary Jimmy Kiser

tial. Christ is the cornerstone of this new church, and these families are the building blocks. We request your prayers for the continued growth of this church. Thank you to all that sent encouragement, prayers, and financial support.

NEWS FROM THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Greetings from the Sunny Carribean!

Praise God! We have successfully finished another school year and there was no one more excited than the teachers except for maybe Bro. Ken! We have completed our graduation exercises and they were all wonderful. We graduated 8 seniors, 33 eighth graders, and 20 from our kindergarten. We are proud of all of our graduates and congratulate them on their hard work! The Baccalaureate services were a tremendous blessing to me. Bro. Ken spoke and many parents went forward with their children to pray for God's guidance and direction in their lives. The brother of a lady in our church got saved and his fiancée rededicated her life. (They got married three days later!) We also were blessed to have a Muslim family in our Baccalaureate services. What an amazing opportunity the Lord gave Bro. Ken to preach the gospel that night!

Keep us in your prayers. Your Home Missions work here on St. Croix has a huge responsibility. We are constantly before the island's eyes as we minister to their children. Souls are continually being saved but the devil bombards us at times. The battle with unsaved children

and parents leaves our teachers and administrators weary. They need your encouragement through prayer. Our vans are spending more time in repair shops because of their growing age.

Thank you again for all that you do. The gym fund continues to grow as offerings keep coming. A great big thank you again to the Park Hills Free Will Baptist Church for the snow cone machine. Our kids think that it is the greatest invention this side of the equator. Two groups are scheduled to come this year. Praise God! Can we ever use their help! Water is coming through the roof so badly in some places that one teacher said only half their room could be used during rain showers.

As usual there is never a dull moment around here. Since we have built our new business office, the men have worked to convert the old office into an apartment where Regina, Jennifer, and Joanna live. One Friday night, a man cut the fence, unscrewed the bulb to the security lights, busted the lock and broke into the office. He proceeded to bust the deadbolt out of the bookkeeper's door. He then proceeded to go into the girls' apartment where they were sleeping. He walked into Joanna's room and turned on her light to find her sleeping there. He said "Hi, how ya doing?" She told him "good-bye," then he shut her door back. Joanna ran across the hall to Gina and Jennifer's room where they had two little girls staying the night with them and turned the light on. Jennifer asked her what she was doing. She told them that there was a man in their apartment. (You know that they have been praying for one but not one like that.) Joanna got brave and ran into the living room, grabbed the phone, and ran back to the bedroom. Jennifer called the pastor, Mr. Rhodes, and 911. Yes, in that order. You never know when the police will show up. The girls were never so glad to hear their voices come into the apartment. Thank God for His protection on that night. Things could have been a lot worse, but God was watching over them. The man went through all of the effort but didn't take a thing.

Keep praying for us as we still have several positions that need to be filled. Pray that God will send us the right people for the coming school year. Also, please pray for the teams that are coming to help out this summer. We are thankful for their willingness to be of help.

Ken and Paula Dodson



Children's Church

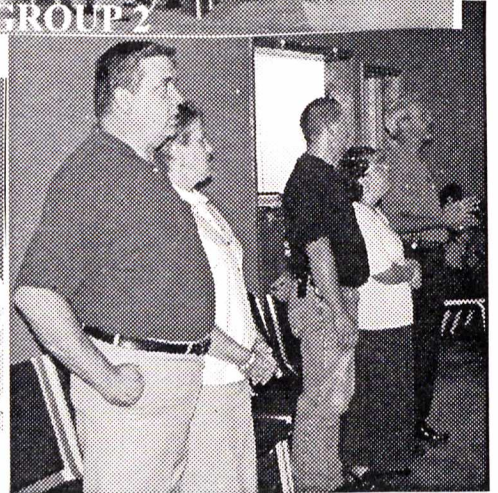
Teen Camp 2002

Statistics for Session I:

Total Attendance	197
Saved	7
Rededications	11
Special Callings	1
Offering for Show-Me Plan	\$435.00

Statistics for Sessions II:

Total Attendance	270
Saved	12
Rededications	72
Special Callings	2
Offering for Show-me Plan	\$400.00



News from Ken and Judy Bailey

SON BENJAMIN GRADUATES AND IS APPROVED BY FREE WILL BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSIONS TO RETURN TO JAPAN

Our twenty-yr. old son, Benjamin, graduated from Wheaton College in Illinois on May 12th, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy and English. We're very proud of him, as he completed his work in just three years! In early May, he was interviewed by the FWB Foreign Mis-

sions Department, and was approved as a 2-yr. short-term missionary to Japan. He will be able to leave for "home" (Tokyo) as soon as he raises his support. We are excited about having one of our children come back to Japan to work with our missionary team! Ben's duties will include teaching English and Bible to children, adult and college classes, as well as being involved in church evangelism. As an "MK" (missionary kid) having

grown-up in Japan, Ben will be a real asset to our team, already knowing the Japanese culture and language. It's a tremendous blessing for Ken and me to see Ben continue to have a burden for the Japanese people.

We need your help to bring Benjamin back to Japan to work with the Tokyo Team. His financial needs will include \$2,000. in monthly support. He is asking 100 churches and/or individuals to support his ministries for \$20. a month for the next two years. Ben is needed here by early September to fill-in for those leaving for state-side assignment, as we have no other missionaries to continue these ministries. Please pray that God can use you and/or your church to help underwrite Ben's support. Please contact him for services or to pledge support at:

Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions
P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011
Phone 877-767-7736 (toll-free)
Email: carole@nafwb.org

Rev. & Mrs. Elmer Turnbough (Grand-parents)
2001 Historic Rt. 66 W.
Waynesville, MO 65583
Phone: (573) 774-6412
Email: eotumbo@iobe.net



The majority of Americans were shocked to hear that a panel of the ninth circuit court of California ruled that the pledge of allegiance was unconstitutional. The devil continues to work to undermine the principles on which our nation was founded. It is good to know that we still have a few good judges on the bench. Judge Roy Moore from Alabama has been repeatedly attacked for his stand on moral and spiritual issues. Here is a poem he wrote which gives a current picture of what is happening in America.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

by Judge Roy Moore

America the Beautiful, or so you used to be.
Land of the Pilgrims' pride, I'm glad they'll never see
Babies piled in dumpsters, Abortion on demand,
Oh, sweet land of liberty, your house is built on sand.
Our children wander aimlessly, poisoned by cocaine,
Choosing to indulge their lusts, when God has said abstain.
From sea to shining sea, our Nation turns away
From the teaching of God's love and a need to always pray.
So many worldly pastors tell lies about our Rock,
Saying God is going broke so they can fleece the flock.
We've kept God in our temples, how callous we have grown,
When earth is but His footstool and Heaven is His throne.
We've voted in a government that's ratting at the core,
Appointing Godless Judges who throw reason out the door,
Too soft to place a killer in a well deserved tomb,
But brave enough to kill a baby before he leaves the womb.
You think that God's not angry that our land's a moral slum?
How much longer will He wait before His judgment comes?
How are we to face our God from Whom we cannot hide?
What then is left for us to do, but stem this evil tide?
If we who are His children will humbly turn and pray,
Seek His holy face and mend our evil way,
Then God will hear from Heaven and forgive us of our sins,
He'll heal our sickly land and those who live within.
But America the Beautiful if you don't, then you will see,
A sad but Holy God withdraw His hand from thee. Amen

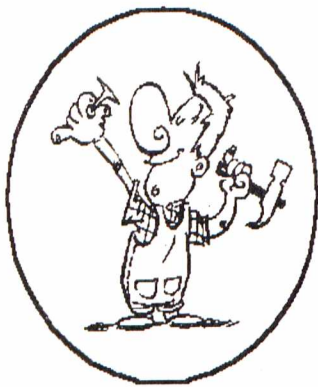
The day before Ben's graduation, Ken received a Master's Degree in Missions/Intercultural Studies at Wheaton. This was for a degree completed while on home assignment last year.

On May 25th, Ken baptized 90-yr. old Mr. Tomoji Takaso. Because of his fragile health, the baptism took place in the Takaso's home. Several Iriso Church members and two unsaved women heard the Gospel, and then listened to Mr. Takaso's testimony of faith. Praise God that He is still working in the hearts of people, regardless of their ages!

English classes and Sunday services have begun at The Good News Chapel. On June 0, we had 12 in attendance. Several hundred people walk by our doors every day on their way to and from the train station. Pray for our witness to them! God has led us to open a preaching point in this new area, and we need your prayers for these new ministries.

Our mission account has continued to be in the deficit. Pray that the needed support will come in.

Thank you for praying, supporting and being committed to seeing the message of Christ presented in Japan



Camp Work Day September 10th

The Free Will Baptist Youth Camp will be having a work day Tuesday September 10th, to work on the upstairs unit of the

multi-purpose building. The volunteers will be setting metal studs, hanging sheet rock, and installing drop ceilings. When the upstairs of the tabernacle is completed, it will be possible to have retreats there during the winter months. You are invited to attend the all-boards meeting and stay for the work day.

Worship Service Averages March 2002 - June 2002

Churches:	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
Beacon	122	106	110	
Belton	48		46	47
Buffalo 1st	132	127	122	120
Cabool	44	40	45	38
Calvary Chapel	271	250	232	226
Calvary Fellowship	384	340	323	301
Cape Girardeau 1st		52		
Copper Mines	52	52	52	
Columbia (Rejoice)		57	49	48
Crossroads-Wentzville		88	58	
De Soto	233	229	204	210
Hannibal	98	88		
Hannon	131	135	139	136
Harmony - Parkville	93		87	
Hartville	241	202	197	186
Hopewell	41	30	32	
Houston	73	67	65	62
Hurryville	106	106	100	
Joplin 1st	107			
Kingsway				34
Lebanon 1st	94			
Lebanon FWB	53	51	49	41
Macedonia- Purdy	179	156	158	145
Mill Creek	93	82	82	74
Mt. Pisgah	84	64	76	68
Myrtle	43	28	35	34
New Life - Licking	68	72	59	65
Oak Hill- Union	64	56	58	62
O'Fallon 1st			153	144
Ozark 1st	202	176	188	179
Pleasant Hill	27	25	29	31
Purdy	67		58	
Richwoods 1st	52	42	51	44
Rock Chapel	69		62	58
Rolla 1st	42	33	30	31
Springfield 1st	240	153	140	135
Sunnyview	73	55	52	49
Terrill Road	56	47	54	
Thayer	181	160	128	145
Trinity	73	67		
Union Grove			117	112
United	662		578	617
Westport- Jeff. City				11
Willow Springs-Mtn. Grove	87	87	76	

This is only a partial listing. There are 187 FWB Churches in Missouri. Each church is encouraged to send in their worship averages.

ILLINOIS FREE WILL BAPTISTS TO HOST A STAN TOLER SEMINAR

The Illinois Free Will Baptists Christian Education Board will be hosting a seminar with Stan Toler. The seminar will be held at the Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in South Roxana October 12, 2002, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The title of the seminar is "The Vibrant Church." The cost is \$20 per person. If a church brings more than 10 people, the cost will be just \$200 for the group.

Financial Report June 2002

Cooperative Disbursements

June 2002 \$47,498.55

18.50% MO Home Missions	\$8,787.23
17.00% Executive Office	8,074.75
3.00% General Fund	1,424.96
.50% Show-Me Plan	237.49
8.50% Youth Camp Board	4,037.38
3.00% Y.C. Restricted Fds	1,424.96
2.00% Youth Ministries Bd	949.47
2.00% C.E. Board	949.47
2.00% Senior Adult Min Bd	949.47
9.00% MO State Retirement	4,274.87
31.50%	14,962.04
National Ministries, Hillsdale and	
California Christian College	
Foreign Missions Board	
National Home Missions Board	
Same Allocation	
Free Will Baptist Bible College	
Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	
Executive Department	
Layman's Board	
Radio & TV Commission	
Theological Commission	
Historical Commission	
Board of Retirement & Insurance	
1.00% California Christian College	
3.00% MO Show-Me Plan	1,424.96
Total	\$47,498.55

Co-op

Aulsbury Chapel	\$274.11
Bailey	\$169.00
Bailey Chapel	\$246.00
Belton	\$352.31
Berean	\$60.00
Bethel- El Dorado Springs	\$392.31
Bethel-Northview	\$332.00
Black Oak	\$718.72
Byrd	\$82.50
Cabool 1st	\$314.86
Calvary Chapel	\$1,417.64
Calvary Fellowship	\$653.00
Carthage	\$230.00
Central	\$1,071.30
Central	\$875.39
Chapel of the Ozarks	\$237.76
Christ Chapel	\$379.64
Clifton	\$61.00
Columbia	\$413.82
Copper Mines	\$498.29
Cornerstone	\$584.65

Crossroads-Wentzville	\$764.00
DeSoto 1st	\$1,400.00
Emmanuel- Colorado	\$66.03
Faith & Hope- Willow Springs	\$107.22
Farmington 1st	\$3,657.66
Fellowship- Park Hills	\$1,200.00
Fordland	\$459.98
Fourth	\$241.11
Fredericktown 1st	\$383.00
Freeman Chapel	\$387.30
Gospel Light	\$100.00
Grace	\$1,165.50
Grant Avenue	\$1,169.72
Hannibal	\$538.00
Hannon	\$970.00
Harmony	\$425.00
Hartville	\$999.75
Hopewell	\$236.00
Houston 1st	\$419.97
Hurryville	\$486.86
Jackson	\$117.20
Joplin 1st	\$641.84
Kingsway	\$235.69
Kirksville 1st	\$167.30
Koshkonong	\$207.00
Lead Hill	\$242.44
Lebanon	\$241.29
Lebanon 1st	\$865.87
Lone Star	\$58.60
Macedonia- Niangua	\$94.58
Marshfield	\$214.80
Merls Chapel	\$131.00
Mill Creek	\$516.32
Mine LaMotte	\$75.77
Monett	\$720.39
Mt. Pisgah	\$382.00
Mt. Zion- Gower	\$51.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	\$1,195.83
Myrtle	\$282.70
New Hope	\$70.00
New Life- Licking	\$402.85
Niangua	\$247.68
Number One	\$191.61
Oak Grove- Mtn. Grove	\$176.58
Oak Hill- Union	\$1,201.61
O'Fallon	\$1,346.00
Olivet	\$420.00
Overland	\$120.00
Ozark 1st	\$1,623.16
Park Hills 1st	\$674.17
Parkview	\$539.10
Pleasant Hill	\$140.54
Pleasant Home	\$186.00

Pleasant Ridge- Urbana	\$82.00
Potosi 1st	\$175.42
Republic	\$100.00
Rock Chapel	\$312.36
Rolla 1st	\$244.00
Royal Oak	\$89.00
Seymour	\$479.00
Springfield 1st	\$972.93
Stockton	\$474.84
Terrill Road	\$50.00
Thayer	\$822.00
Trinity	\$863.55
Union	\$60.00
Union Light	\$202.00
United	\$1,859.05
Unity	\$300.00
Viburnum	\$317.00
Victory- Alton	\$503.54
Waynesville 1st	\$532.95
Westport- Jeff City	\$35.00
Willow Springs- Mtn. Grove	\$299.59
Wolf Creek	\$402.00
Total	\$47,498.55

Show-me Plan

Barker, Rev. J.	\$15.00
Belton	\$165.00
Berean	\$30.00
Berry, R.	\$15.00
Bethel - El Dorado Springs	\$392.31
Bethel - Festus	\$45.00
Black Oak	\$120.00
Brown, A.	\$15.00
Burns, J.	\$60.00
Buxton, G.	\$30.00
Cabool	\$105.00
Calvary Chapel	\$105.00
Calvary Fellowship	\$2,581.00
Cartee, J.	\$15.00
Central	\$192.00
Central	\$137.00
Chrisman, M.	\$30.00
Combs, G.	\$50.00
Cooperative Plan	\$1,424.96
Copper Mines	\$150.00
Copper Mines - Teens & Jr. Cl.	\$30.00
Copper Mines - Yg. Adult Class	\$15.00
Cornerstone - Mtn. Grove	\$319.00
Darnell, W.	\$15.00
DeSoto 1st	\$552.50
DeSoto 1st - Auditorium Class	\$15.00
Faith - Fair Grove	\$175.00
Faith - St. Louis	\$25.00
Faith & Hope - W.S.	\$120.00
Faith- Fair Grove Ladies Aux.	\$175.00
Farmington 1st	\$850.00
Fellowship	\$573.67
Fordland	\$250.00
Fourth	\$75.00
Fredericktown 1st	\$150.00
Freeman Chapel	\$540.00
Garrett, R.	\$15.00
Gospel Light	\$1,000.00
Grace	\$405.00
Graham, S.	\$82.40
Grant Ave.	\$325.00
Greater Kansas City	\$11,774.00
Greenfield	\$180.00
Hannon	\$1,120.00
Happy Hill	\$60.00
Happy Hill	\$60.00
Harmony - Parkville	\$50.55
Hartville	\$240.00
Hastings, H.	\$30.00
Hurryville	\$300.00
Hurryville Sr. Adult S.S. Class	\$15.00
Jackson	\$40.00
Joplin 1st	\$75.00
Lebanon 1st	\$150.00
Lebanon F.W.B.	\$30.00
Macedonia - Purdy	\$1,000.00
Maggart, D.	\$45.00
Matthews, G.	\$45.00
Merl's Chapel	\$200.00
Mill Creek	\$140.00
Mill Creek C. W. F.	\$15.00

Mill Creek Young Adult S.S.C.	\$15.00
Mine La Motte	\$75.00
MOWAC	\$758.85
Monett 1st	\$185.00
Mountain Grove 1st	\$1,014.00
Mouser, J.	\$60.00
Mt. Pisgah	\$75.00
Myrtle	\$75.00
New Home - Hartville	\$210.00
New Hope - Fredericktown	\$105.00
New Life - Licking	\$72.00
New Testament	\$15.00
Noel, D.	\$15.00
Oak Grove - Houston	\$30.00
Oak Hill - Union	\$20.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$146.00
Olivet	\$30.00
Ozark 1st	\$45.00
Park Hills 1st	\$272.26
Parker, G.	\$15.00
Parkview- Desloge	\$334.24
Pinkerton, J.	\$45.00
Pleasant Hill	\$45.00
Pleasant Home	\$330.00
Pleasant Ridge-Urbana	\$50.00
Purdy	\$690.00
Reiter, K.	\$30.00
Richwoods	\$67.50
Rock Chapel	\$210.00
Rogers, F.	\$15.00
Rolla 1st	\$30.00
Royal Oak	\$120.00
Ruble N.	\$45.00
Springfield 1st	\$540.00
State Meeting Offering	\$410.31
Stockton	\$77.50
Thayer	\$270.00
Thomas, E.	\$15.00
Trinity	\$465.00
Union Light	\$150.00
United - West Plains	\$399.97
Unity	\$75.00
Viburnum	\$75.00
Walnut Grove	\$15.00
Waynesville 1st	\$466.75
West Port- Jeff City	\$5.00
White, R.	\$15.00
Willow Springs - Mtn. Grove	\$115.00
Willow Springs 1st	\$150.00
Total	\$35,443.77

Foreign Missions

Belton	\$15.00
Calvary Fellowship	\$12,014.69
Central	\$30.00
Chapman, A.	\$20.00
Farmington 1st	\$17.50
Fordland	\$40.00
Fourth	\$50.00
Gospel Light	\$80.00
Grant Ave.	\$56.00
Greater Kansas City	\$3,364.00
Lewis, D.	\$20.00
Matthews, A.	\$15.00
Minor, K.	\$10.00
New Testament	\$80.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$15.00
Park Hills 1st	\$5.00
Thayer	\$5.00
Trinity	\$174.95
Total	\$16,012.14

Nat'l Home Missions

Belton	\$80.50
Calvary Fellowship	\$3,137.00
Carthage	\$5.00
Chapman, A.	\$10.00
DeSoto 1st	\$258.00
DeSoto Adult SS Class	\$10.00
Farmington 1st	\$1,308.00
Fordland	\$20.00
Fourth	\$50.00
Fredericktown	\$70.00
Gospel Light	\$160.00

Grace	\$34.00
Grant Avenue	\$12.00
Hannon	\$583.00
Hartville	\$100.00
Huffman, T.	\$5.00
Jackson	\$35.00
Joplin 1st	\$50.00
King, B.	\$5.00
Macedonia- Purdy	\$100.00
Monett 1st	\$105.00
Mt. Pisgah	\$25.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	\$55.00
Myrtle	\$65.00
New Home- Hartville	\$10.00
New Testament	\$160.00
Oak Hill	\$300.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$69.00
Park Hills 1st	\$157.42
Pleasant Home	\$10.00
Rader, J.	\$40.00
Richwoods	\$31.00
Rock Chapel	\$71.25
Rogers, B.	\$15.00
Ruble, N.	\$10.00
Thayer	\$200.00
Theabeau, B.	\$5.00
Trinity	\$253.18
Union Light	\$96.00
United	\$150.00
United Youth Group	\$170.00
Unity	\$50.00
Westport- Jeff City	\$5.00
Wolf Creek	\$75.00
Total	\$8,160.35

State Home Missions

Belton	\$90.50
Central Western Association	\$42.25
DeSoto 1st	\$90.00
Eastern Gate W. A. C.	\$50.00
Fellowship- Park Hills	\$100.00
Gale Kinser	\$25.00
Gene Crews	\$20.00
Gospel Light	\$80.00
Grace	\$40.00
Kirkville 1st	\$167.30
Lebanon Bible & Bookstore	\$330.00
Marvin Cook	\$20.00
Myrtle	\$95.00
O'Fallon	\$69.00
Ozark 1st	\$10.00
Pleasant Home	\$49.72
Pleasant Ridge- Urbana	\$20.00
Roger Harwell	\$20.00
Ronnie Blanks	\$25.00
Sally Merriweather	\$25.00
Skiles, Dale	\$200.00
State Convention Offering	\$275.31
Thayer	\$50.00
Trinity	\$43.18
United	\$25.00
Waynesville 1st	\$50.00
Westport- Jeff City	\$5.00
White, Richard	\$10.00
Total	\$2,027.26

Youth Camp

Hartville	10.00
Rolla 1st	20.00
Niangua	20.00
Lebanon Bible & Book	180.00
Thayer	50.00
Mt. Pisgah	15.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	10.00
New Home- Hartville	10.00
Cornerstone	25.00
Westport- Jefferson City	5.00
Hannon	50.00
Park Hills 1st	46.18
Ozark 1st	10.00
Willow Springs- Mtn. Grove	10.00
DeSoto 1st	55.00
West Plains 1st	25.00
Union	30.00

Trinity	9.00
Cabool	10.00
Total	\$590.18

Camp Development Fund

Myrtle	30.00
Rock Chapel	242.00
Houston 1st	100.00
Total	\$372.00

C. E. Board

Lebanon Bible & Book Store	\$130.00
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Senior Adult Ministries

Lebanon Bible & Book Store	\$130.00
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Youth Ministries Board

Lebanon Bible & Book Store	\$130.00
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Free Will Baptist Bible College

Ruble, Nathan	15.00
Thayer	50.00
Ozark 1st	15.00
DeSoto 1st	40.00
South Central Assn.	491.38
Farmington 1st	152.84
Total	\$764.22

Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College

Monett 1st (Building Fund)	200.00
Thayer	50.00
Grant Ave.	4.00
Hannon	100.00
South Central Assn.	491.37
Joplin 1st	75.00
Farmington 1st	172.16
Total	\$1,092.53

Trula Cronk Home for Children

Myrtle	6.00
Belton	70.00
Hannon	20.00
Park Hills 1st	100.00
DeSoto 1st	55.00
Nosser, M.	25.00
New Hope	30.00
Waynesville 1st	27.00
Total	\$333.00

Rev. John McClure

Monett 1st	85.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	22.50
Westport-Jefferson City	5.00
Purdy 1st	40.00
DeSoto 1st	10.00
Carthage 1st	15.00
Grace	15.00
Total	\$192.50

Cornerstone FWB Church

(Brian Brinkoff)	
New Testament	\$10.00

Vergel Maness

Gospel Light	80.00
Grace	100.00
Total	\$180.00

Indian Bible College

(Richard Standley)	
Chapman, A.	\$10.00

Women's Nationally Active for Christ

Ruble, J.	\$10.00
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Morgan Minkler

Belton	\$40.00
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2004 National Convention

Rejoice (Columbia)	\$75.00
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Dr. L.C. Johnson 1914 - 2002

Dr. L. C. Johnson, founding president of Free Will Baptist Bible College, died in Norfolk, Virginia, on June 26, 2002, at the age of 88. He was born in Alma, Georgia, on February 3, 1914, and ordained to the ministry in 1934.

The National Association of Free Will Baptists voted in 1942 to launch an educational institution in Nashville, Tennessee, and tapped the 28-year-old pastor, Linton Johnson, to head it. With few resources other than his own vision and strength of character, he shaped the infant Bible school and laid the foundation for what would become Free Will Baptist Bible College. He served as its president for 34 years until his retirement in 1979. (He returned to the pastorate for three years, 1944-47.) He served for two years, 1979-81, as chancellor of the college.

He earned his B.A. at Bob Jones College (now University). The University later bestowed on him an honorary doctorate. His pastorates included Free Will Baptist churches in Georgia, Mississippi, Florida, and Tennessee.

He also served on the Executive Committee of the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges and on the program of the World Congress of Fundamentalists.

He was frequently sought as a speaker for Bible conferences and revivals but said he felt like a poor evangelist because, no matter where he went, his heart and mind remained in Nashville, bound up in the affairs of the college.

In recent years, his health declined. He retained his sense of humor and paid frequent visits to the college. In May, he and Mrs. Johnson moved to Norfolk to live with their daughter and son-in-law, Mary Nell and the Rev. Terry Beck.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Masser Johnson, and by their three children, Paul Johnson, Mary Nell Beck, and Mark Johnson.

Few men have marked as many lives within the ranks of the Free Will Baptist denomination as Dr. Johnson. His influence will live on through those who are richer for having known him.



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OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**
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