

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Volume 74 • Number 4

April 2003

Serendipity

by Ruth Bivens

Last week my husband and I were invited to attend the Missouri State Missionary Retreat. What a treat! We had the opportunity to travel up to Lebanon, Missouri; spend the night in a nice hotel; visit the Free Will Baptist Book Store; and spend part of a couple of days visiting and learning from our Missouri State Mission Board and other missionaries who are at work in Missouri. Trips like that are one of the blessings of doing the kind of work we do, and always seem to come at times just when we need to retreat a little. But, this trip had another wonderful surprise in store, something that took us back several years.

In early 1989, in the bitter winter time, we received a call from a Lutheran church in Tulsa, asking if we could help them with some translation for family that had just arrived from Honduras. This church maintained a little "safe house" to receive refugees who were waiting for disposition of their status in the country. The family had been referred to them from the Texas border



but, no one at the church could communicate with them.

In Tegucigalpa, Honduras, several men broke into their house, tied up the lady, her mother and daughter, dragged her brother away and threatened them. They never heard from the young man again and believe that he must have been killed. They never knew why, nor who the men were, but feared that they would come back again since the three of them had been witnesses.

With increasing fear for their safety, the mother left three of her children with relatives and ran away with the oldest daughter, her nephew and youngest son. Afraid they would be seen leav-

ing, they climbed out a back window of their house, with only the clothing on their backs and what little money they could scrape together quickly.

The trip across Guatemala and Mexico had been difficult. They slept on the ground and under bridges, finding a bit of work where they could so they could eat, and then moving on. For several months the lady and the children walked and worked their way from Honduras. Once they reached the US border they were immediately seized by US Immigration officials. Afraid they would be returned to Tegucigalpa and more danger, they requested political asylum.

Since the government of Honduras is a Democracy, their case would have to be reviewed. Those reviews take time, and there is quite a waiting period before they can even begin. So the family was turned over to an Shelter organization that provided housing for folks in just this situation.

continued on page 8



MONETT WELCOMES NEW CHURCH AND NEW PASTOR

The Monett community is pleased to welcome a new place of worship that opened recently for the Hispanic public. Iglesia Bautista de Libre Albedrio, the Free Will Baptist Church, is located on Hwy BB, 1/2 mile east of Midway between Monett and Purdy, and began with their first service on Sunday morning, January 19, at 10 a.m.

Pastor Bud Bivens is a former high school teacher and counselor, speaker, and retired State Farm Insurance agent who along with his wife Ruth, a retired registered nurse, both pictured above, has traveled extensively in Central and South America and Mexico.

As one of President John F. Kennedy's first Peace Corps recruits in 1963, Pastor Bivens spent a lot of time in Bolivia where he became interested in the Hispanic people, language, and culture, and accepted many more missions there.

Between 1987 and 1993, the Bivens' made 19 medical mission trips to Honduras and Nicaragua, and during 1994-95 made 34 trips to Mexico. They returned to Mexico, 1995-98, to build churches including one in Reynosa, Mexico. Both of the Bivens' sons married Hispanic women, and his son John and daughter-in-law Paulina run an orphanage in Piedras, Negras, Mexico, that cares for 28 children.

In preparing their new ministry here, the Bivens' gained the help of the Indian Creek Association of Free Will Baptists who provided practical help with the church building and financial assistance for the ministry.

The Bivens' welcome all Hispanics to join their growing ministry. (This article was first printed in the Monett Shopper)



NEWS FROM CAMP NIANGUA

Can you believe it? Camp time is just around the corner. We are looking forward to a great year! We are continuing to improve Camp Niangua. We are hopeful that our new sidewalks will be complete by camp time. Our new well is finished and we should have plenty of water this year. Bro. Ken Reiter has joined our staff as a full time maintenance person. We believe Bro. Ken and Sister Kay will be a blessing to Camp Niangua. Bro. Ken will be helping Bro. Ken Goff maintain and improve our camp. One area we all know needs improvement is our playground. It has been such a blessing throughout the years, but now is in need of total renovation. As you may expect, commercial playground

equipment is very expensive. We expect to make some new improvements this summer, but plan to use the camp offerings this year to purchase new playground equipment and games for the rec. room. We hope your youth group will join with us to improve our playground area and rec. room by helping raise money and then bring this offering with them to camp. Churches and individuals can send offerings to the state office marked for the Youth Camp Playground. We are still in need of a pickup, four wheel drive with an automatic transmission in good shape. If you know of one which could be donated, please contact Bro. Ken Goff at the Youth Camp.

We hope to see you at camp and know it will be a year to remember.

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.

Bethel Church Dedicates New Sanctuary



The Bethel Free Will Baptist Church located near Marshfield, Missouri, assembled on the Lord's day, February 23, to dedicate their new sanctuary to the Lord. In spite of a pending snow storm, a good number of people attended Sunday School and the morning worship service.

The snow began to fall about the time the congregation adjourned to the fellowship hall to enjoy a delicious lunch prepared by the ladies of the church.

Several visitors braved the snow to share in the afternoon dedication service.

This service was blessed with spirited congregation singing and special music. Nathan Ruble preached the dedication message. Pastor James Crawford recognized several people for their contribution to the building of the new sanctuary. He then led in the act of dedication as he invited the church board, trustees, members, and guests to gather in the front of the sanctuary for prayer. Pastor Crawford prayed the prayer of dedication.

Brother James Crawford is the founding pastor. During the past twelve years, he has led the church in three building programs. The new addition has increased the church plant by approximately 3500 square feet. The sanctuary is beautifully decorated. New seats and a new baptistry complement the decor. The church is visible from interstate 44.

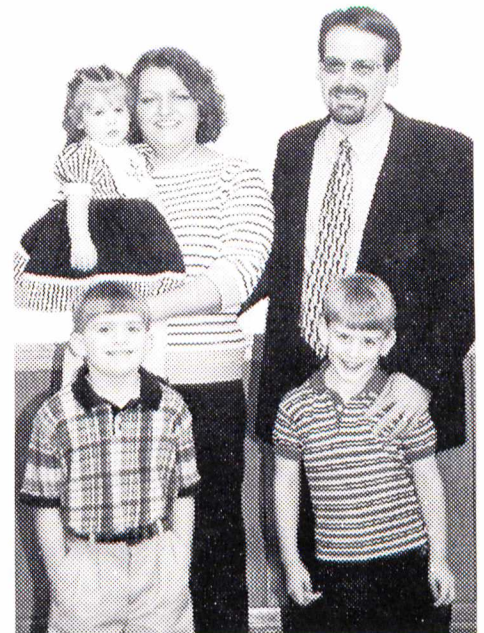
Bro. and Sister Crawford and the congregation of the Bethel church are to be commended for their faithful service to the Lord. The church is not only adding to its physical plant, it is also adding new members and impacting the Marshfield community.



Rev. & Mrs. James Crawford

NEW PASTOR AT COPPER MINES

The members of Copper Mines Free Will Baptist Church at Fredericktown, Missouri, are proud to announce their new pastor, Bro. Darin Alvis, and his wife, Sis. Joy. They have two sons, Dalton age 6, and Dylan age 5, and one daughter, Melissa age 1. They previously lived at Cabool, Missouri, where Brother Darin pastored the Mt. Pisgah Free Will Baptist Church. Brother Darin is originally from Chandler, Indiana. Sis. Joy is from Festus, Missouri. They met at Southeastern Free Will Baptist College in Wendell, North Carolina, where Bro. Darin received his Bachelors degree in Bible with minors in pastoral theology and missions. Sister Joy received a Bachelors degree in sacred music with a minor in missions. Brother Darin will be a full time pastor for Copper Mines. The congregation excitedly anticipates the work God will do in their church under Brother Darin's pastorship. Copper Mines Free Will Baptist Church is located on county road 220 off of Hwy 67 just north of Catherine Place.



NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS NEEDING HELP

Excerpt from an e-mail sent by Home Missions Director Larry Powell

"These are perilous times in our country with the treat of terrorism and war looming on the horizon. These uncertainties are having a negative impact on our economy as well as Home Missions. Since September 11 our income has steadily declined. Our income in 2001 was 4.9 million and last year in 2002 it was 4.1 million, an 800 thousand difference. (However, our spending decreased some with all the drastic cuts I made.) Our Benjamin Randall offering was near \$50,000 short this year. Missionary accounts during January were in deficit \$94,273.95 with a total deficit for the month of \$136,305.00 for the month."

I am informing our people that the Home Missions Board has frozen salaries and that we have trimmed and trimmed and made some deep cuts here in the office to do our part. Our staff will be working hard to help change this picture. Thank you very much for your prayers and support. I appreciate you so very much. Thanks for your partnership and concern!

In His Service,
Larry A. Powell
General Director

2003 State Program

Theme: "Guarding Our Heritage"

II Tim. 1:12-14

Cowan Civic Center, Lebanon, MO

Monday, June 2, 2003

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

1:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. Evening Worship

"Guarding our Heritage By Declaring God's Power"

Missouri WNAC
General Board Meeting
Rev. Max Courtney

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

9:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

1:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. Evening Worship

"Guarding our Heritage by Defending the Faith"

C. E. Bd. Workshop
Worship Service
Business Session
Rev. Jim Williams

Wednesday, June 4, 2003

9:00 a.m. Devotion

Till adjournment

11:00 a.m. Worship

"Guarding our Heritage by Defining our Distinctives"

7:30 p.m. Evening Worship

"Guarding our Heritage by Disbursing the Gospel"

Scott McNay
Business Session
Rev. Dale Skiles
Rev. Keith Burden

VALENTINE FUN AT NEW LIFE CHURCH



The Royal Court

the privilege of displaying their feet for inspection. Mike Coats was declared to have the dirtiest feet based on the fact that he received the most quarter votes. Philip and Leann Freeman were declared to be the most lovesick couple.

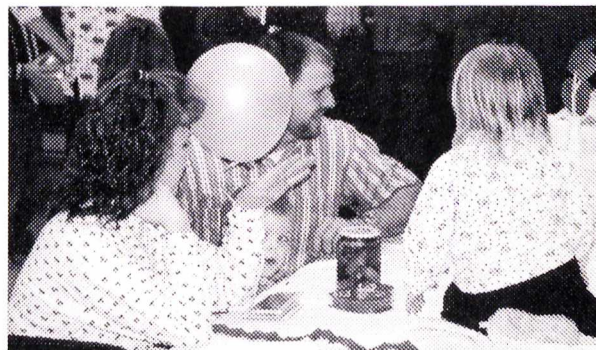
The committee which organized the Valentine party was composed of Warren and Leona Livingston, Sybil Ray and Ruth Courtney. The \$458.00 raised during the good time of fun and fellowship will go toward purchasing a new sound system for the Children's Church. Pastor Courtney said, "We all had an enjoyable evening and a good meal. We ate the pretty food, and it really tasted great. You would be surprised what a little garnish will do to beans and 'taters.'"

The Valentine party held at the New Life Free Will Baptist Church of Licking, Missouri, was a time for crowning royalty and for enjoying a time of fun and games. The contestants seeking a royal title had eagerly sought contributions for their bank jars days prior to the party. Each twenty-five cents counted one vote. Shaden Hoylen was crowned King, and Hannah Ogden was crowned queen. The runner-ups, Walker Ray and Jennifer Ogden, were crowned prince and princess.

The women were also included in the friendly competition. They were encouraged to bring a decorated dish of food to be judged not on the basis of

taste or eye appeal but rather on the amount of votes they received at twenty-five cents a vote. Leona Livingston won the prize for the prettiest dish of food.

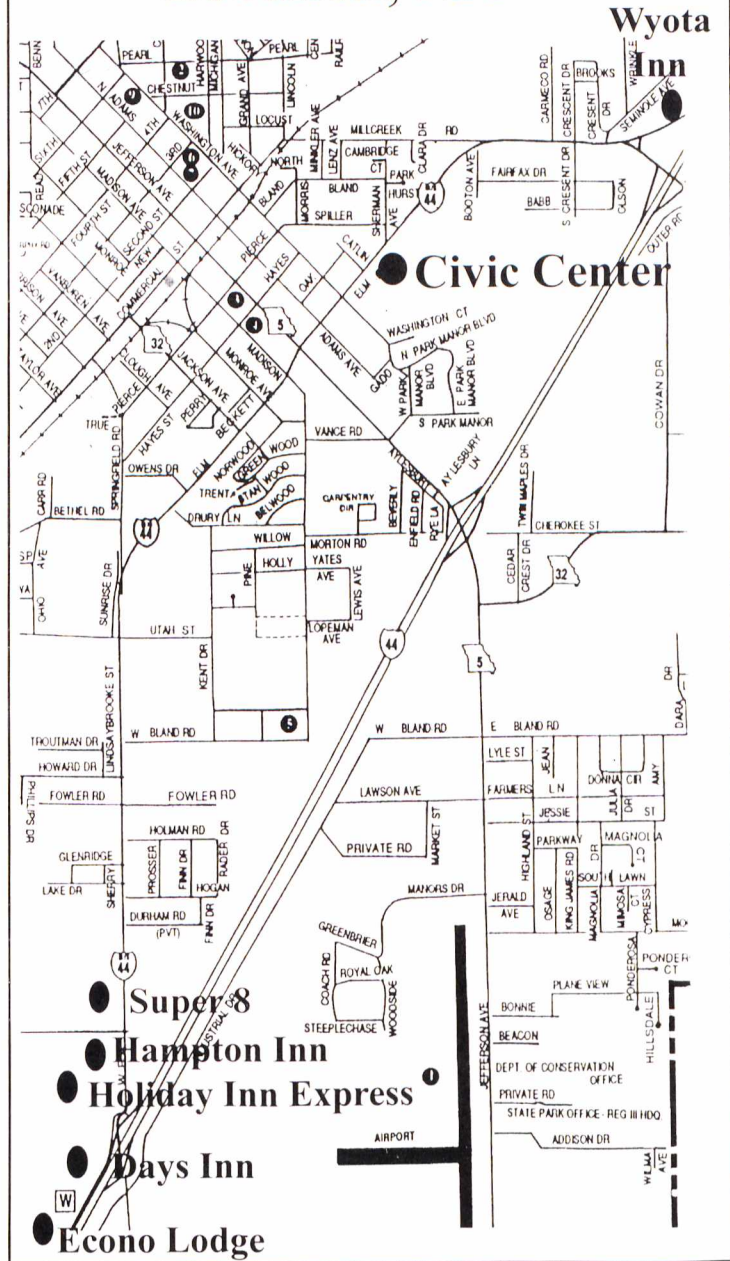
The men had



The Love Sick Couple

MOTEL INFORMATION FOR MISSOURI FREE WILL BAPTISTS STATE MEETING

Lebanon, MO



**Missouri Free Will
Baptists Convention
Cowen Civic Center
Lebanon, MO
June 2 - 4, 2003**

Super 8 Motel

1831 West Elm- I44 Exit 127
Phone 417-588-2574

Reservations 1-800-800-8000

1 bed, 1-2 people \$49.29 + tax

2 beds 1-2 people 53.90 + tax

Add \$3 for each additional person

Children under 11 stay free

Continental Breakfast



Wyota Inn

Interstate 44 Exit 130

Phone 417-532-6171

Reservations 1-866-996-8246

Single - \$49.50 + tax

Double - 52.50 + tax

Triple 55.20 + tax

Quad 57.00

Restaurant Breakfast included in price of room : When you book your reservation, tell the clerk this is the price quoted for FWB



Holiday Inn Express

Holiday Inn
EXPRESS

I44 - Exit 127

1955 W. Elm St.

Phone 417-532-1111

Reservations 1-800-465-4329

Single \$62.50 + tax

Double 67.50 + tax

Add \$5 for each additional person

Large Continental Breakfast



Hampton Inn

930 Ivey Lane - I44 Exit 127

Phone 417-533-3100

Single \$69.00 + tax

Double \$76.00 + tax

Under 18 stay free

Large breakfast Bar

Senior Rate same as single

Days Inn

I44 - Exit 127

Phone 417-532-7111

Single \$42.88 + tax

Double 44.88 + tax

Triple 45.88 + tax

Quad 48.88 + tax

Continental Breakfast

Econo Lodge

I44 - Exit 127

Phone 417-588-3226

Single \$35.95 + tax

Double 39.99+ tax

Add \$5 for each additional person

Continental Breakfast

Summer Camp

TAKE YOUR CHOICE AT FWBBC SUMMER CAMP 2003

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—Free Will Baptist Bible College's SUMMER CAMP 2003, June 29-July 4, will offer campers a choice of four camps: Music, Drama, Basketball, and (new this year) Leadership. The camp theme will be: SERVE!

The cost is just \$185 for a great week with FWBBC's student leaders and teachers. For a free brochure, contact the college:

E-mail: recruit@fwbbc.edu
Phone: 1-800-76-FWBBC
Postal: FWBBC Summer Camp, 3606 West End Avenue,
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE APPROVES NEW DEGREE PROGRAM

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—Free Will Baptist Bible College's board of trustees have approved a new degree completion program to be offered by the college. The program will target adults with at least two years of college training who want to complete requirements for graduation. It will be offered in 5-week, 4-hour evening modules that will enable students to earn a bachelor's degree in 19-24 months. The college expects to have the program in place by the fall of 2003.

The board additionally approved two new programs in Teacher Education. The two-year Associates Degree in Early Childhood includes a paraprofessional certification program in early childhood for individuals interested in becoming professional childcare providers. The four-year Bachelor of Science program in Early Childhood includes a PreK-4 licensure for students desiring to teach younger children in grades preschool through fourth and qualifies graduates to direct preschool childcare programs.

Trustees authorized a major renovation of Welch Library. The \$150,000 face-lift is due to begin next summer and could take a year or more. It will include a new roof, a wiring upgrade, new carpet and more.

The college's trustees met on campus December 4-5. Members of the board are Rev. Gary Fry (chairman), Rev. Richard Barnes, Mr. Greg Kettelman, Rev. Archie Ratliff, Mr. A.C. Allen, Rev. Billy Hanna, Rev. Terry Pierce, Dr. Steve Ashby, and Rev. Gene Outland.

Missouri State CTS Competition May 9 - 10, 2003 Calvary Fellowship Fenton, MO

The 2003 Missouri State Competition is just around the corner. Calvary Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church in Fenton, MO, will be the site for this year's competition. We're expecting the largest number of entries ever.

Remember these rules: Individual contestants may enter no more than three (3) categories and divisions, excluding Bible Competition entries. Any church having four (4) or more entries in Music and Arts Categories 1-9, **must have at least one Bible Competition entry** at the lowest level of competition.

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

Entry Fees for the competition shall be:

\$25.00 per single entry category
\$45.00 per group entry (2-4 people)
\$75.00 per group entry (5+ people)

The **entry deadline** is **April 10, 2003**. **Please use a separate form for each entry.** Send entry forms and appropriate fees to:

Missouri Youth Ministries Bd.

% Mark Braisher
P.O. Box 23808
Overland Park, KS 66283

Motel Information for Youth Competitive Activities

Pear Tree Inn
1100 S. Highway Dr.
Fenton MO 63026
636-343-8820
All rooms \$89.00

Mention that you are with Free Will Baptist CTS
(913)685-2855

Church Seeking a Pastor:

Blue Springs Free Will Baptist Church

Blue Springs, Missouri

Contact Person

Gene Williams

132 S. 27th St.

Blue Springs, MO 64015

Ph. 816-228-3003

e-mail - fdandish@msn.com

National Youth Conference Competition Registration Form

District-State-National

COMPETITION CODES

Circle the appropriate information below and write correct code numbers in the boxes in the top right-hand corner:

AGE GROUP...

- A Grades 1-3
- B Grades 4-6
- C Grades 7-9
- D Grades 10-12

BIBLE DIVISIONS...

- 0.11 Bible Memorization - Grade 1
- 0.12 Bible Memorization - Grade 2
- 0.13 Bible Memorization - Grade 3
- 0.14 Bible Memorization - Grade 4
- 0.15 Bible Memorization - Grade 5
- 0.16 Bible Memorization - Grade 6
- 0.17 Bible Memorization - Grade 7
- 0.18 Bible Memorization - Grade 8
- 0.19 Bible Memorization - Grade 9
- 0.20 Bible Memorization - Grade 10
- 0.21 Bible Memorization - Grade 11
- 0.22 Bible Memorization - Grade 12
- 0.40 Bible Sword Drill - Grade 4
- 0.50 Bible Sword Drill - Grade 5
- 0.60 Bible Sword Drill - Grade 6
- 0.70 Bible Tic Tac Toe
- 0.80 Bible Bowl
- 0.90 Truth Quest

MUSIC & ARTS...

Vocal Solo

- 1.10 Vocal Solo (Age A - B)
- 1.20 Male Vocal Solo (Age C - D)
- 1.30 Female Vocal Solo (Age C - D)

Vocal Ensemble

- 2.20 Duets
- 2.30 Trios
- 2.40 Quartets
- 2.50 Ensemble with 5-12 members
- 2.60 Ensemble with 13 or more members

Instrumental Solo (non-keyboard)

- 3.10 Woodwind
- 3.20 Brass
- 3.30 Stings (Bowed)
- 3.40 Strings (Plucked)
- 3.50 Percussion

Instrumental Ensemble

- 4.10 Duets, Trios, or Quartets
- 4.20 Ensemble with 5 or more members

Keyboard

- 5.10 Manual/Electronic Solo
- 5.20 Keyboard Ensemble

Communication Arts

- 6.10 Famous Speech
- 6.20 Preaching
- 6.30 Individual Drama
- 6.40 Illustrated Storytelling
- 6.50 Group Drama
- 6.60 Puppetry (live)
- 6.70 Puppetry (recorded)

Creative Writing

- 7.10 Short Story
- 7.20 Essay
- 7.30 Poetry

Electronic Media

- 8.10 Video
- 8.20 Web Page Design
- 8.30 Powerpoint Presentation

Creative Arts

- 9.10 Painting
- 9.20 Graphics
- 9.30 Three-Dimensional Art
- 9.40 Photography
- 9.50 Fabricated Art
- 9.60 Promotional Graphic Art
- 9.70 Computer Art

COMPETITION FEES

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

20 Year Record code numbers from left column here -

Name of participant or group (as you want it to appear in the directory)

Name of Church

City

State

Pastor's Name

Pastor's phone number

 - -

Name of director (or coach)

Director's phone number

 - -

Name of Association

Total Fee for this entry

 \$.00

Complete the following information for each participant in this entry:

1. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

2. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

3. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

4. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

5. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

6. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

7. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

8. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

9. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

10. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

11. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

12. Name

Address

City St. Zip

Phone Birthday Grade just completed

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

PARTICIPANT'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 competition indicated above as stated in the Guidelines for Competitive Activities, and I promise to conduct myself (or group) in a manner becoming to a Christian and representative of my church, district, and state.

PLEASE USE A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH ENTRY!

Mail to:

Missouri Youth Ministries Bd.
% Mark Braisher
P.O. Box 23808
Overland Park, KS 66283

Signature of Participant or Director (Coach)

Please Print Plainly

When my husband went to the house he found the mother, her 14 year old daughter, her 12 year old nephew and her 5 year old son, huddled together in the cold, and scared to death. He helped them get the groceries they needed to eat, and assisted the group from the church in providing them with the basic things they needed to live. He took the children to their different schools and helped them get enrolled and made sure they knew how to get there and back and had the supplies they needed. Once he was sure they were okay, he left them, promising to check back in on them. The next day he went back and took me along.

We saw them frequently, and made ourselves available if they needed help in any way. Every cold snap their pipes froze and my husband ran over to thaw out pipes or make repairs. I remember one day when we dropped in to find that the kitchen sink was stopped up. Not knowing that grease would solidify in the cold pipes, they had poured lard down the sink drain.

As the winter ended, we planned family outings with them, trips to the zoo, picnics, even a trip to swim in Saline Creek. Evelyn, the daughter, found a special place in our hearts. She came to the house for weekends, and loved calling us her Grand-parents.

When time for their hearing came, my husband drove them to Oklahoma City. He listened as they told their story, and as they received the verdict. Their asylum was denied. They had thirty days to leave the country. They appealed the decision, and then before the next hearing date, they disappeared.

In time we heard from them again. Evelyn, at age 15, had married a man who claimed to be a preacher. She had a baby boy with Down's Syndrome and her mother had also married and had a little girl. The babies were two or three months old the last time I saw them, in an apartment in Tulsa. That was in late 1990.

Over the next few years Evelyn called my husband's office occasionally. We knew that Evelyn's family had

moved to Houston and the nephew had been adopted by a man in Tulsa. When we left Tulsa for the mission field in 1995 all contact with them ended.

Last Monday, in Lebanon Missouri, to begin our missionary retreat, the Mission Board invited us all to lunch. We drove a few blocks from the Missouri Free Will Baptist State Offices to a Western Sizzler Restaurant. As we all stood around waiting a turn at the buffet table, I saw my husband make a little side trip. He is always on the lookout for some Hispanic and will go and strike up a conversation with them. I had just picked up my salad plate when I heard him call my name. Over by the coffee pots in the corner of the dining room he was waving frantically for me to come. I set the dish down and walked over. There he was, smiling from ear to ear, his hands on the shoulders of a stocky little Hispanic lady. "Look,!" he exclaimed. "It's Evelyn!"

I could not believe my eyes nor ears. There she stood. The little girl who had been so close to us, and disappeared from our lives so quickly. We all three laughed and hugged and laughed and hugged again.

When my husband saw a Hispanic lady filling water glasses he immediately went over and spoke to her in Spanish. "Buenos Dias" he said. "Hello" she answered in English. Then, in Spanish, he asked her, "Do you speak Spanish?" She looked up at him, stepped back, looked him over again, and asked, "Are you Bud?"

Evelyn waited on the tables for our group in a private dining room, and Bud was proud to get up and tell everyone who she is and how we know her. The folks in the room applauded, and Evelyn smiled proudly. As we got ready to leave we made sure that we had one another's telephone number, and directions to each other's homes.

On Tuesday as soon as the meeting ended we headed out to visit Evelyn. It happened to be her day off and she greeted us at the door of her mobile home out in the country west of Lebanon. We played with her two youngest boys while she brought us up to date on her family. Her first husband certainly did not display the life style one expects of a preacher, and after several escapades, she divorced

him. She and her present husband are members of a large Pentecostal church in Lebanon, where she sings in the choir. They are both involved in the work and enjoy attending the annual retreats for the men's and women's groups. Evelyn has five children. The three oldest are in school, and her oldest son Jason, 12, has learned to write his name!

After a short visit we headed out for Springfield where we looked for a particular Mexican restaurant. There we asked for one special waiter, the five year old boy. He is a fine young man now, 19 years old, working to support his mother. He was delighted to see us, and had some time between customers to visit with us and share



About the author: Ruth Bivens and her husband Bud are missionaries to the hispanic community in Monett, MO. This article was written for her column, "From My Pointless View" which is carried by the Mayes County Banner.

Do You Know George and Betty Miller?

Franklin Bryant is trying to locate George and Betty Miller. Bro. Bryant attended the Free Will Baptist Church in Concord, California, with the Millers several years ago. When the Millers moved to Missouri and the Bryants moved to Oklahoma, they lost contact with one another. Bro. Bryant attends the Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church in Stigler, Oklahoma. He can be contacted at Route 1, Box 725, Kinta, Oklahoma 74552 or phone 918-768-3482.

**Support
the
Show-Me Plan**

**Help your pastor and his wife visit
the growing Free Will Baptist work in Cuba!**

Just give to the World Missions Offering

Churches giving (undesignated)

\$10,000 or more—The pastor and his wife receive an all-expense paid trip to Cuba where “Mom and Pop” Willey labored and where the work is flourishing. The church receives a beautiful framed collage of Laura Belle Barnard and other pioneer missionaries.

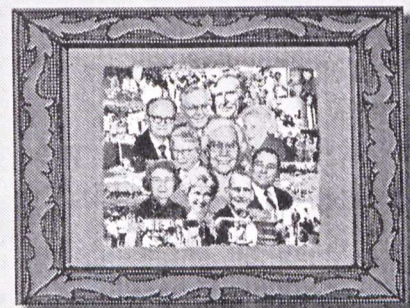
\$5,000 or more—The church receives a beautiful framed gemstone wall map (left) and the pastor receives a nice framed collage of Laura Belle Barnard and other pioneer missionaries similar to that below.

\$1,000 or more—The church receives a nice framed collage of Laura Belle Barnard and other pioneer missionaries similar to that below.



Pastors of churches giving \$1,000 or more and individuals giving \$1,000 or more will be recognized during a special dinner at the 2003 National Association in Tampa, Fla.

Offerings must be received by Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-9998 before June 30 to ensure a reservation for the recognition dinner on Wednesday evening.



Laura Belle Barnard
World Missions Offering
April 27, 2003

NOTE: Individuals may receive recognition gifts and the dinner on the same basis as churches but the offering must be counted apart from the church offering.

Needed: Electric Wheel Chair

If you have a used electric wheel chair for sale, please contact Don Martin at 573-885-1463 or send e-mail to donette@fidnet.com

Don's wife is suffering from fibromyalgia and unable to get around without a wheelchair.

Worship Service Averages November 2002- February 2003

Churches:	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Belton	35	44	37	37
Buffalo 1 st	125	134	128	104
Cabool	39	41	41	38
Calvary Chapel	300	264	277	264
Calvary Fellowship	348	358	374	379
Cape Girardeau	65		58	59
Copper Mines	58	55	52	
Columbia	56	54	54	53
Crossroads- Wentzville	71	66		
De Soto	208	230	211	
Green Hills	24	28	20	
Hannon		137	126	127
Harmony - Parkville		72	83	
Hartville		194	201	183
Hopewell		31	33	
Houston	65	60	54	43
Hurryville	93	97	85	95
Joplin 1 st	114	108	105	105
Kingsway		35	33	33
Lebanon FWB	53	53	56	
Macedonia- Purdy	155	165	164	
Mill Creek	89	96	93	103
Mt. Pisgah	66			
Myrtle		28	33	
New Life - Licking	59			60
Oak Hill- Union	67	57	59	51
O'Fallon 1 st	151	150	169	
Ozark 1 st	167	167	163	
Pleasant Hill	28	25		22
Richwoods 1 st	52	51	42	52
Rock Chapel	48	57	48	42
Rolla 1 st	36	30	39	44
Springfield 1 st	104	102	102	
Sunnyview	53			
Terrill Road	65	69		
Thayer	145	147	152	146
Trinity	53	85		
Union Grove	116	118	119	122
United	569	667	586	531
Victory- KC	101	104	102	100
Willow Springs-Mtn. Grove		66		

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

Financial Report

February 2003

Cooperative Disbursements

February 2003 \$50,953.24

18.50% Missouri State Home Missions Board \$9,426.35
 3.00% General Fund 1,528.60
 .50% Show-Me Plan 254.77
 8.50% Youth Camp Board ... 4,331.02
 3.00% Y.C. Restricted Fds . 1,528.60
 2.00% Youth Ministries Bd . 1,019.06
 2.00% Christian Ed Bd 1,019.06
 2.00% Senior Adult Min Bd . 1,019.06
 9.00% State Retirement 4,585.80

31.50% 16,050.27
 National Ministries, Hillsdale and California Christian College
 Foreign Missions Board
 National Home Missions Board
 Same Allocation
 Free Will Baptist Bible College
 Hillsdale FWB College
 Executive Department
 Layman's Board
 Radio & TV Commission
 Theological Commission
 Historical Commission
 Board of Retirement & Insurance
 1.00% California Christian College

3.00% MOShow-Me Plan 1,528.60

Total \$50,953.24

The Co-op allocation for National Ministries is undesignated this year, with FWBCC and Hillsdale receiving an equal amount. California Christian College will continue to receive 1%.

Coop

Amity \$143.48
 Amity \$142.40
 Aulsbury Chapel \$161.98
 Bailey Chapel \$153.00
 Beacon \$2,750.00
 Belton \$291.50
 Berean \$50.00
 Bethel- El Dorado Springs \$306.79
 Bethel-Northview \$794.00
 Black Oak \$456.34
 Buffalo 1st \$100.00
 Byrd \$71.00
 Cabool 1st \$253.25
 Calvary Chapel \$1,332.20
 Calvary Fellowship \$220.83
 Cape Girardeau \$606.40
 Cape Girardeau \$554.33
 Carthage \$320.00
 Carthage \$315.00
 Christ Chapel \$414.21
 Christ Chapel \$375.50
 Clifton \$49.50
 Columbia \$577.60
 Copper Mines \$339.20
 Cornerstone \$448.43
 Crossroads-Wentzville \$606.00
 Cuba \$535.00
 Cuba \$590.00

DeSoto 1st \$1,450.00
 DeSoto 1st \$1,450.00
 Emmanuel \$297.39
 Faith & Hope- Willow Springs ... \$94.65
 Faith & Hope-Aurora \$58.50
 Farmington \$2,543.05
 Fordland \$668.68
 Fourth \$215.00
 Fredericktown 1st \$158.00
 Freeman Chapel \$362.40
 Gospel Light \$100.00
 Grant Avenue \$1,682.65
 Green Hills \$110.36
 Hannibal \$527.00
 Hannon \$1,000.00
 Harmony \$556.00
 Hartville \$1,265.00
 Harvest-Raymore \$304.30
 Hopewell \$275.00
 Hurryville \$467.51
 Jackson \$148.00
 Joplin 1st \$637.68
 Kingsway \$217.95
 Koshkonong \$92.00
 Lead Hill \$335.20
 Leadington \$364.84
 Lebanon 1st \$1,052.65
 Lebanon FWB \$495.56
 Liberty- Nevada \$175.00
 Lone Star \$77.60
 Macedonia- Niangua \$93.10
 Meris Chapel \$125.00
 Mill Creek \$503.40
 Mine LaMotte \$88.60
 Mountain Grove 1st \$1,257.65
 Mt. Pisgah \$393.00
 Mt. Zion-Gower \$48.50
 Mt. Zion-Gower \$48.00
 Myrtle \$203.00
 Neosho \$95.00
 New Hope \$70.00
 New Life- Licking \$387.85
 North Five \$13.00
 Number One \$187.23
 O' Fallon \$1,714.00
 Oak Grove- Mtn. Grove \$197.60
 Oak Hill \$447.00
 O'Fallon 1st \$1,343.00
 Olivet \$420.00
 Overland \$110.00
 Ozark 1st \$1,435.73
 Palbaras De Vida Eterna \$47.50
 Parkview \$545.63
 Pleasant Hill \$141.21
 Pleasant Home \$469.10
 Pleasant Ridge \$70.00
 Potosi 1st \$135.10
 Republic \$100.00
 Republic \$100.00
 Rock Chapel \$334.83
 Rolla 1st \$441.00
 Royal Oak \$56.00
 Salem \$173.00
 Seymour \$512.35
 Smyrna \$100.00
 Smyrna \$80.00
 Springfield 1st \$946.10
 St. Francois Assn. \$42.00
 Terrill Road \$50.00
 Thayer \$951.00
 Union Grove \$416.00
 Union Light \$203.00
 United \$1,811.00

Unity	\$400.00
Victory-Kansas City	\$521.18
Victory-KC	\$589.48
Waynesville	\$423.73
Waynesville 1st	\$474.99
West Plains 1st	\$825.00
Willow Springs- Mtn. Grove	\$297.13
Wolf Creek	\$376.34
Total	\$50,953.24

Show-Me Plan

Beacon	\$537.00
Belton	\$165.00
Berean	\$30.00
Berry, R.	\$15.00
Bethel - El Dorado	\$356.80
Bethel - Festus	\$45.00
Black Oak	\$60.00
Buffalo 1st	\$60.00
Burns, J.	\$60.00
Buxton, G.	\$30.00
Cabool	\$105.00
Calvary Chapel - Buffalo	\$105.00
Calvary Fellowship	\$999.50
Cartee, J.	\$15.00
Chrisman, M.	\$30.00
Columbia	\$75.00
Cooperative Plan	\$1,528.60
Copper Mines	\$150.00
Copper Mines - Teen. & Jr. Cl.	\$30.00
Copper Mines - Yg. Adult Class	\$15.00
Cornerstone - Mtn. Grove	\$317.00
Cuba	\$103.00
Cuba	\$105.50
DeSoto 1st	\$552.50
DeSoto 1st	\$552.50
DeSoto 1st - Auditorium Class	\$30.00
DeSoto 1st - Auditorium Class	\$30.00
DeSoto Yg. Adult SS Class	\$15.00
Faith - St. Louis	\$20.00
Faith & Hope - W.S.	\$120.00
Farmington 1st	\$705.00
Fordland	\$250.00
Fourth	\$64.00
Fourth	\$15.00
Fredericktown 1st	\$60.00
Freeman Chapel	\$540.00
Garrett, R.	\$15.00
Garrett, R.	\$15.00
Gospel Light	\$1,000.00
Graham, S.	\$15.00
Grant Ave.	\$225.00
Greenfield	\$360.00
Hannibal - WNAC	\$15.00
Hannon	\$1,100.00
Harmony - Parkville	\$36.57
Hartville	\$240.00
Hurryville	\$500.00
Hurryville Sr. Adult S.S. Class	\$15.00
J. Brown	\$15.00
Jackson	\$45.00
Joplin 1st	\$85.00
Leadington	\$441.43
Lebanon 1st	\$150.00
Lebanon F.W.B.	\$30.00
Macedonia - Purdy	\$3,000.00
Maggart, D.	\$45.00
Maggart, D.	\$45.00
Matthews, G.	\$45.00
Meri'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
MO Women Active For Christ	\$342.32
Mountain Grove 1st	\$490.00
Mouser, J.	\$60.00
Mouser, J.	\$60.00
Mt. Pisgah	\$75.00
Mt. Zion - Thayer	\$30.00
Myrtle	\$75.00
Neosho 1st	\$135.00
New Home - Hartville	\$210.00
New Hope - Fredericktown	\$105.00
New Life - Licking	\$110.95

New Life - Monett	\$75.00
New Testament	\$15.00
Noel, D.	\$15.00
Number One	\$60.00
Oak Grove - Houston	\$30.00
Oak Hill - Union	\$20.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$131.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$128.00
Olivet	\$30.00
Ozark 1st	\$75.00
Palabras De Vida Eterna	\$20.00
Parker, G.	\$15.00
Parkview - Desloge	\$252.01
Pinkerton, J.	\$45.00
Pleasant Hill	\$45.00
Pleasant Home	\$660.00
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana	\$50.00
Pouge, R.	\$15.00
Purdy	\$345.00
Richwoods	\$67.50
Rock Chapel	\$240.00
Rogers, B.	\$15.00
Rogers, B.	\$15.00
Rolla 1st	\$30.00
Royal Oak	\$120.00
Ruble N.	\$45.00
Springfield 1st	\$515.00
St. Francois Dist. Assn.	\$3,001.00
Starnes, A.	\$60.00
Thayer	\$230.00
Union Light	\$150.00
United	\$373.97
Unity	\$75.00
Victory - K.C.	\$55.00
Walnut Grove	\$15.00
Waynesville 1st	\$414.10
White, R.	\$15.00
White, R.	\$30.00
Willow Springs - Mtn. Grove	\$70.00
Willow Springs 1st	\$150.00
Total	\$25,180.25

Foreign Missions

Calvary Fellowship	\$125.00
Carthage	\$10.00
Chapman, A.	\$20.00
Chapman, A.	\$20.00
Cuba	\$20.60
Cuba	\$21.10
Faith & Hope - Aurora	\$58.50
Farmington 1st	\$42.50
Fordland	\$25.00
Fourth	\$50.00
G. M.	\$327.00
Grant Ave.	\$15.00
Hickory Grove	\$90.02
Joplin 1st	\$40.00
Lewis, D.	\$20.00
Lewis, D.	\$50.00
Matthews, A.	\$15.00
Minor, K.	\$10.00
Minor, K.	\$10.00
Mountain Grove 1st	\$10.00
New Testament	\$80.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$20.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$20.00
Pleasant Home	\$131.32
St. Louis Assn.	\$65.00
Thayer	\$10.00
Union Mission	\$164.56
Victory - K.C.	\$5.00
Waynesville 1st	\$127.00
Total	\$1,602.60

Nat'l Home Missions

Beacon	\$50.00
Belton	\$25.00
Calvary Fellowship	\$1,057.50
Carthage	\$5.00
Columbia	\$25.00
Cuba	\$61.80
Cuba	\$63.30
DeSoto 1st	\$240.00
DeSoto 1st	\$200.00

Farmington	\$290.00
Fordland	\$20.00
Fourth	\$50.00
Fredericktown 1st	\$15.00
Gospel Light	\$240.00
Grant Avenue	\$10.00
Hannon	\$700.00
Jackson	\$55.00
King, B.	\$5.00
King, B.	\$5.00
Mountain Grove 1st	\$50.00
Mt. Pisgah	\$25.00
Neosho	\$50.00
New Home-Hartville	\$10.00
New Life- Monett	\$50.00
New Testament	\$90.00
Oak Hill	\$44.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$88.50
O'Fallon 1st	\$71.00
Rader, J.	\$20.00
Richwoods	\$63.00
Rock Chapel	\$69.25
Ruble, N.	\$5.00
St. Francois Assn.	\$3,001.00
Thayer	\$225.00
Thebeau, B.	\$5.00
Thebeau, B.	\$5.00
Union Light	\$96.00
United	\$150.00
Unity	\$50.00
Victory- KC	\$25.00
West Plains 1st	\$45.00
Wolf Creek	\$75.00
Total	\$7,430.35

State Home Missions

Belton	\$35.00
Bethel- Festus	\$15.00
DeSoto 1st	\$90.00
DeSoto 1st	\$90.00
Fordland	\$10.00
Gospel Light	\$80.00
Lebanon Bible & Bookstore	\$330.00
Macedonia- Purdy	\$100.00
McNay, J.	\$100.00
Myrtle	\$138.00
Neosho	\$25.00
New Testament	\$50.00
Niangua	\$104.50
O' Fallon	\$173.50
O'Fallon 1st	\$71.00
Ozark 1st	\$10.00
Palabras De Vida Eterna	\$50.00
Pleasant Ridge	\$20.00
Republic	\$25.00
Republic	\$25.00
St. Francois Assn.	\$6,002.00
Thayer	\$125.00
United	\$25.00
Waynesville	\$50.00
Waynesville 1st	\$50.00
White, R.	\$10.00
White, R.	\$10.00
Total	\$7,814.00

Youth Camp

Hartville	10.00
Lebanon Bible & Book Store	180.00
New Home- Hartville	10.00
New Life- Monett	106.97
Ozark 1st	10.00
Rolla 1st	20.00
Thayer	65.00
De Soto 1st	55.00
Mt. Pisgah	15.00
Stephens, T.	10.00
Hannon	50.00
Cornerstone	25.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	10.00
West Plains 1st	25.00
Willow Springs-Mtn. Grove	10.00
Buffalo 1st	50.00
Cabool 1st	10.00
De Soto 1st	55.00
Total	\$716.97

Camp Development Fund

Rock Chapel	71.00
Myrtle	24.00
O' Fallon	1000.00
Total	\$1,095.00

Free Will Baptist Bible College

Farmington 1st	150.00
Thayer	50.00
Beacon	125.00
De Soto 1st	40.00
Ruble, N.	15.00
De Soto 1st	40.00
Oak Hill	10.00
Total	\$430.00

Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College

Farmington 1st	150.00
Thayer	50.00
Beacon	125.00
Joplin 1st	75.00
Hannon	100.00
Fordland	10.00
Oak Hill	10.00
Total	\$520.00

C. E. Board

Lebanon Bible & Bookstore	\$130.00
---------------------------	----------

Senior Adult Ministries

Lebanon Bible & Book Store	\$30.00
----------------------------	---------

Youth Ministries Board

Lebanon Bible & Book Store	\$30.00
----------------------------	---------

Trula Cronk Home for Children

New Life- Monett	106.97
Belton	60.00
De Soto 1st	55.00
Nosser, M.	25.00
Calvary Fellowship	10.00
Hannon	100.00
New Hope	30.00
Unity	20.00
De Soto 1st	55.00
Myrtle	2.00
Nosser, M.	25.00
Total	\$488.97

Rev. John McClure

Carthage	15.00
Chapman, A.	10.00
Mtn. Grove 1st	25.00
Carthage	15.00
Chapman, A.	10.00
Total	\$75.00

Women Nationally Active for Christ

Ruble, J.	\$15.00
-----------	---------

Richard Stanley

Chapman, A.	\$10.00
-------------	---------

Vergel Maness

Gospel Light	80.00
Myrtle	77.00
Total	\$157.00

Morgan Wood

Harvest	20.00
Belton	30.00
Total	\$50.00

Brian Brinkhoff

New Testament	\$10.00
---------------	---------

Berea Ministries

Hartville	\$150.00
-----------	----------

Victor Torrez

United Youth Group	\$200.00
--------------------	----------

2003 Senior Adult Retreat



Rev. Bob Thomas
Speaker and Soloist

Stonecroft Conference Center

May 12-16, 2003

Bob Thomas has served as pastor, staff member, evangelist, conference speaker, and guest soloist for a variety of venues.

Cost:	
Double	\$60.00
Triple	55.00
Quad	50.00

Please Print:

Registration Form

Name _____ Home Phone () _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church _____

**Please send registration form and a
\$10 non-refundable deposit to:**

**Senior Adult Ministries Board
2040 Osage St.
Lebanon, MO 65536**

We would like to attend (Please check one)

_____ Session I - May 12 - 14 _____ No Preference

_____ Session II - May 14 - 16

Staying with: _____

Please respond by: May 1, 2003



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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LEBANON, MO 65536
PERMIT NO. 1092

**PLEASE INFORM US IMMEDIATELY OF YOUR NEW ADDRESS
TO INSURE UNINTERRUPTED DELIVERY OF YOUR GEM**