

Volume 74 • Number 11 November 2003

e have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us. We have vainly imagined in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too selfsufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

2004 Calendar

Ministers Retreat

March 15 - 17, 2004

Stonecroft Conference Center, Branson, MO

State Youth Competitive Activities

No date or location at this time

Senior Adult Retreat

Group I

May 10 - 12, 2004

Group II

May 12 - 14, 2004

Stonecroft Conference Center, Branson, MO

Missouri State Convention/

Woman's Auxiliary Convention

June 7 - 9, 2004

Clarion Hotel - Springfield, MO

Youth Camp

Teen Group 2, June 13 - 18, 2004 Teen Group 1, June 20 - 25, 2004

<u>Pre - Teen Group 1</u> July 25 - 30, 2004

Pre - Teen Group 1

Aug 1 - Aug 6, 2004

Group 1 Group 2
Greater Springfield Bootheel

Indian Creek
Central Western
Greater K. C.
Mid-Rivers

Mission Northeast
Cave Springs Northwest
Liberty St. Francois
MO-ARK St. Louis

NianguaNorthwest South Central

Laclede

National Convention, NYC & WNAC

July 18 - 22, 2004 Kansas City, MO

Missouri Women Active For Christ Retreat

August 13 - 14, 2004

Stonecroft Conference Center

Preacher/Layman's Retreat/All Boards Meeting

September 13, 2004

Youth Camp, Niangua, MO

Homecoming At Beacon

September 27th & 28th

Beacon Free Will Baptist Church in Raytown, Missouri, enjoyed two days of homecoming celebration beginning with a "Beacon Kids Picnic" on Saturday afternoon with approximately 140 guests. "Beacon Kids" came home from Arkansas, Illinois, Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri to spend an evening reminiscing and catching up on old times.

With approximately 246 in attendance, the Sunday morning service began at 10:00 a.m. with a welcome from Pastor Kenny Simpson. The Beacon praise and worship team led the congregation in singing a medley of songs, praising God for His redeeming love. Former pastor, Rev. Roger Harwell, brought greetings and led in the opening prayer. The Beacon Choir led by Jodi Simpson, presented a special arrangement of, "All Hail the Power" with a corresponding media presentation.

Beacon Church history was presented by Greta Carter followed by a media presentation, entitled, "The Way We Were," compiled by Bart Moore and narrated by Janice Moore.

Beacon FWB Church was organized March 28, 1957 with sixteen charter members. Four (4) of the charter members were present for the Sunday service, namely: Melvin and Carmen Smith; Greta Carter; and LaRue Maxwell.

Janice Moore was honored for her service of over forty years as choir director and worship leader. She was presented with gifts from the choir and the congregation. Special guests, the Signature Quartet from Monett, Missouri brought the special music followed by a challenging message by guest speaker and former pastor, Rev. Ernest Harrison.

Following a delicious lunch served by the ladies of the church, a combined choir of past and present members sang, "What a Day That Will Be," and the Signature Quartet blessed everyone with a concert during the afternoon.

Church Needs Pastor

Victory Free Will Baptist Church Kansas City, MO Send Resumes to: Gary Herrin 1001 NE 67th Place Gladstone, MO 64118

Phone: 816-436-2374

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, incuding subscription and mailing information, to the above address. The sermons and articles published in the GEM respresent 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.



Free Cold Water

The Ladies United with a Vision (LUV) chapter, which meets monthly, recently sponsored an evangelistic outreach in Desloge on Saturday August 30, and Monday September 1.

This group from Parkview Free Will Baptist Church distributed gospel tracts and free water to passers-by attending the annual Labor Day Picnic. This event is held in the Desloge City Park which is adjacent to the church property.

Their theme was taken from John 7:37, "If any man thirst let him come to me and drink."

Other men, women, and children from the Parkview Church helped with this endeavor. The gospel message on the printed page was presented to a host of people in our area.

The LUV chapter plans to make this an annual event.

Willow Springs Church Welcomes New Pastor

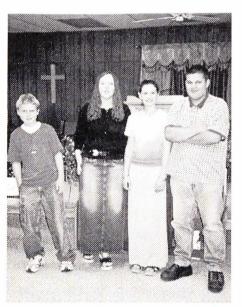
The Willow Springs Free Will Baptist Church of Mountain Grove, MO, is pleased to announce the arrival of their new pastor, Rev. Lynn Beck. Brother Beck and his wife Debbie moved into the parsonage on July 15, 2003.

Rev. Beck has pastored since 1979 and has served churches in Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, and for the past 13 years in Missouri. Lynn and Debbie moved to Missouri in 1990 to pastor the First Free Will Baptist Church of Kirksville. In 1995 they moved to Moberly as state home missionaries serving under the Missouri State Mission Board. They organized the Moberly church in August 2000. In 2001 they moved to Fredericktown where Brother Beck served as pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church until moving to Mountain Grove this year.

Rev. Beck has served in several capacities in state works. He was a member of the Texas State Mission Board from 1984 - 1987. He served as moderator of the Northeast Association for several years and served on the Missouri State General Board representing the Northeast Association. Sister Debbie is currently serving as the State Field Worker for the Missouri Women Active for Christ.



The Becks have three sons and eight grandchildren. Their oldest son, Blaine, lives in Crossett, Arkansas where he serves as Associate Pastor and Christian School principal. Middle son, Fred, lives in Republic, MO and is a Springfield police officer. David lives in Moberly, MO, and is an office manager of a paper company.



Active Teen Group in Jackson

The Jackson Free Will Baptist Mission now has four members in their youth group: Shawn Hoderbaugh, Kayla George, Marie Decker, and David Hoderbaugh. They hold monthly meeting and are studying the life of Joseph. The group goes out on Saturdays and passes out literature from door to door. They have given out over 400 pieces of literature. The youth group from Copper Mines Free Will Baptist Church, their sponsors, and pastor Darin Alvis joined the youth group in its outreach efforts on September 20. They made 291 contacts.

The Jackson Youth Group held a Rock-A-Thon and raised \$302 for missions and for their mission trip next July. They are raising funds for a mission trip to the new Free Will Baptist work at the White Earth Indian Reservation in Minnesota. Pray for our youth group that the members may grow in number, but most importantly, pray that they will grow spiritually in their study of God's Word as they work in the outreach ministries of our church.

Islamic Challenge On

University Campuses

"Capt. James J. Yee, an Army Is-

lamic chaplain and a 1990 graduate of

the U.S. Military Academy at West Point,

N.Y., was arrested recently by the FBI

in Jacksonville, Fla. And charged with

spying and aiding the enemy," the

Washington Times reports. (Islamic

Army Chaplain Charged As Spy,

By J. Mark Vandivort



America to underestimate or misunderstand altogether the size of the international jihadist threat or the ultimate goals of Islamic terrorists." (p. 275). ("jihad," is defined by Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition, "1: a holy war waged on behalf of Islam as a religious duty.")

Muslims don't know the God of love and forgiveness of sin through faith in Jesus Christ. After death they expect to meet Allah who will weigh their good deeds against their bad deeds. Their most certain guarantee of entering Paradise is to die as a martyr for the cause of Islam.

Being informed provides a climate for practical responsibility. However, In light of the information that Robert Spencer has shared we must not lose sight of why our Sovereign God has placed us in our world at this time. Consider the example of Peter who shared the gospel with an officer of the foreign occupying army. (Acts 10). To first century Christians who were experiencing severe persecution, Peter wrote, "Show respect for all men — treat them honorably...." (1 Peter 2:17, Amplified Bible).

Paul sought "common ground" with the philosophers of Athens. (Acts 17). Several people who have spent a lifetime witnessing to Muslim people have written helpful books. They offer excellent guidelines for understanding the culture and teachings of Islam.

Ergun Mehmet Caner and his brother Emir Fethi Caner, wrote, "To witness to the 1.2 billion Muslims on the earth, the Western Christian has many cultural hurdles and potholes to maneuver. ...Reaching a lost world is difficult enough, even without making relational offenses (cultural mistakes and personal missteps), and creating misunderstandings. ..."

The Caner brothers also wrote, "Given the historic hostility between Christians and Muslims, one must build bridges and friendships before presenting the

NewsMax.com, 9/21/03).

According to this article, Yee was raised as a Christian. He converted to Islam while a student at West Point. (Islam is reported to be making rapid gains on U.S. university campuses.)

I urge you to pray for the effective outreach of Christian students, professors, staff, and trained Christian workers on university campuses.

Robert Spencer, in his book, *Onward Muslim Soldiers*, (Regnery Publishing, 2003), said, "Chapters of the Muslim Student Association have long been associated with radical Islam." (p. 19). Spencer continues, "[W]hen Sheikh Saad says that the war is against Christians, he is saying that it is against America. This official of our friend and ally Saudi Arabia declared, 'I am against America until this life ends. ...'" (p. 99).

The Qur'an [Koran] spells out how one can be in harmony with Islam. Note Spencer's observation: "A cornerstone of the Qur'an's teaching about jihad is 'the Verse of the Sword,' Sura 9:5: 'So when the Sacred Months have passed, then fight the Mushrikin [unbelievers] wherever you find them, and capture them and besiege them, and lie in wait for them in each and every ambush. But if they repent and perform the Salah [Islamic prayers five times daily], and give the Zakah [alms as required by Islamic law], then leave their way free. Verily, Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful." (p. 131).

Spencer's book contains a very sober warning for America, including lessons from 1,400 years of history as well as overwhelming current documented evidence. He wrote, "Whatever the motives of the whitewash of jihad in the West, it could be lethal if it causes

Youth Look

by Ann Robinson

Thanksgiving is usually celebrated with lavish spreadsof food. We enjoy the bounty God has given us. . .usually beyond satisfaction.

The largest Thanksgiving meal will satisfy for a day, or up to week if there are leftovers involved.

However, God wants us to eat from the food that He provides — the kind of food that lasts forever. We all try to satisfy ourselves with the things that will satisfy for a time, but He offers us something that will keep us from ever longing for anything again. Scorned by many, it is of infinite worth. This Thanksgiving, let's be thankful for our food and blessings but give continual thanks for the food that endures through Christ Jesus.

John 6:27

A Prayer for Our Nation

Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage, we beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning and pure manners. . .

Endow with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in Thy name we entrust the authority of the government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth.

In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness and in the days of trouble, suffer not our trust in Thee to fail.

Thomas Jefferson

No one can help everybody, but everyone can help someone.



Rev. Ronnie Graham and his wife Sharon were recently honored at a banquet for their 30 years of service at the Hurryville Free will Baptist Church. Brother Ronnie has been in the Lord's ministry for over 40 years.



Randall House "Retirement Rewards" Program

Reward your pastor every quarter with 1 % of your Randall House curriculum purchases going into your pastor's FWB retirement account. Start your rewards today:

The Lebanon Bible and Book Store is participating in the retirement rewards program. Please note the following policy.

- 1. Enroll with the FWB Board of Retirement (1-- 877-767-7738).
- Each quarter you must provide the Book Store with the pastor's name and retirement account number with your stock order.
- 3. The 1% will be deposited twice a year, in January and July for the two preceding quarters.
- 4. The credit will only be given on Randall House Material.

If you have any questions concerning the policy, you may call the Lebanon Bible and Book Store at 417-532-9516



News From the Bivens

Dear Friends,

Time slips by while we are busy. Please forgive us for failing to keep you posted on what

is going on around here. First of all, we are relieved that the heat of summer has finally passed. We are enjoying cool fall weather, and have had some nice rains.

Bud's flock of little chickens are starting to lay now. We get 10-12 eggs a day. Half of the hens are Aruacanas, so some of the eggs are green colored. That always causes a stir among the kids. I took a sack full of eggs to one family who has a daughter, 13, who is deaf. She would not let them eat the eggs but put them in a basket expecting little chickens to appear. After a couple of weeks someone accidentally dropped an egg and you can guess the rest of the story. Ruth sat down and drew pictures for her and showed her that a little hen has to sit on the eggs for 3 weeks before the baby chicks appear. The next time Ruth took her out to the hen house and let her gather the eggs. She took eggs home and made signs and showed everyone that they were for eating.

We continue to be quite busy helping our folks with translation-at the doctor's office, dentist, health dept., police dept and court (the last two have not been people from our congragation).

The little mother who was picked up on July 24th was deported from the country about a month later. During the furst two weeks or so Bud was able to visit her in jail in Atchison KS a couple of times and took her husband to see her the last time. Her little baby girl will be a year old on the 23rd of this month and is staying with Brother Scott McCully's family during the week. The six year old boy has been staying with us some, today is with his aunt. It is a very sad situation and we ask you to please remember them all. We have legal papers in place to take the children to Guatemala and on two different occasions it looked like we would be leaving the next day. However conditions are so bad there that the whole family has begged her to let them stay here. They certainly need their little mother.

We have had some good groups come and help us during the summer months, and have picked up some new contacts from the work they have done. Ruth started her English classes again Sept 9th and several young men are attending that have never come to church. They get at least a small dose of Bible in each English class and so far have accepted that teaching graciously. We are hoping that the seed will sprout and one day we will see them saved and faithfully attending and working in the church.

This past Sunday we had a special day to celebrate

JACKSON MISSION UPDATE

Dear Prayer Partners

and Supporters,

It has been a while since we have expressed our appreciation for your prayers and generous financial support. We want to



Vernon and Ada Long

give you a report of the mission work you have faithfully supported here in Jackson, Missouri. I will share several things that have happened since our last letter to you.

First, we will share with you that Brother Dallas and Sister Gerrie Henderson, who moved here to help in the mission work are no longer with us. Because of his health he had to take an early retirement, and they have moved to Ashland City, Tennessee. They were a great help to us and also helped us in the Home Mission work in Jackson, Tennessee, when we worked under the National Home Missions Board. The church gave them an appreciation dinner and a money-tree gift the last Sunday they were here.

As we reported in the last letter, we have a lot of people 'coming and going' and wish we could keep all those who come from going. In other words, it would be great if all those who have come to our church would have stayed and helped us in the church. We are in an enlargement campaign during the months of September and October, and counting the ones who are new visitors and those who have visited or have come to our church in the past, there is a total of 127 that we feel there are a possibility of getting back in our services. Thank the Lord, because of the church's efforts in visiting and contacting them, we have seen some of them back in our services and have had a total of 10 new first time visitors in the first three weeks of the campaign.

We are also teaching another 13 week semester of Evangelism Explosion, which we started on September 9. So far we have had two decisions in the on-the-job evangelism training. There are five of us involved in this endeavor of training others to be soul winners. Others of the church are involved in being prayer partners.

We appreciate so much the State Home Mission Board and their help in establishing a Free Will Baptist church here in Jackson. The board pays my salary. The church has been able to pay all of the church payments and all of the other expenses of the church. On January 1, the church will be assuming 20% of my salary, and we want you to pray with us that this will encourage some of our people to start tithing and to give more in their offerings.

We want to thank you again for your prayers and support. Pray especially for our enlargement campaign and for those training in our Evangelism Explosion classes. God bless you.

Vernon and Ada Long

Smile

An exasperated chiropodist parked his car in a "No Parking" zone, with this message on the windshield: "I have circled this block 20 times trying to find a parking place. I have an appointment to keep. - 'Forgive us our trespasses.'"

When he returned, he found this note: "I have circled this block for 20 years. If I don't give you a ticket, I'll lose my job. - 'Lead us not into temptation,'"

The tongue is only a few inches from the brain, but to hear some people talk, the two seem miles apart.

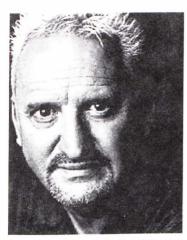
Old Union Reminder

Worship June 200	Serv 3- Se	ice Aver ptember	ages 2003	
Churches:	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	Aug.	Sept
Belton	40		43	41
Buffalo 1st	126	127	123	135
Cabool	35	41	39	39
Calvary Chapel	268	241	269	269
Calvary Fellowship	356		351	371
Cape Girardeau	50		56	
Central	100	71	65	59
Clifton	57	54	64	59
Copper Mines	51	49	53	
Columbia	43	59	52	59
De Soto	210	232	213	204
Green Hills- Lebanon	49	48	50	60
Hannibal	100	93	84	98
Harmony	76	71	70	89
Hartville	179		176	186
Hopewell	30	39	30	
Houston	60	47	58	59
Hurryville	98	101	103	92
Joplin 1 st	111	103	114	
Kingsway	33	33		37
Lebanon 1st	127	124	144	139
Mill Creek	84	83	85	85
Mt. Pisgah	76	70	75	68
Myrtle	34	31	28	25
New Life - Licking	70	58	69	66
Oak Hill- Union	49	46	62	62
O'Fallon 1st	136	129	139	157
Ozark 1st		183	176	
Pleasant Hill	22		35	
Richwoods	51	41	50	62
Rock Chapel	47	47	52	53
Rolla 1st	32	33	39	36
Springfield 1st	125	118	136	157
Terrill Road	54	57	52	
Thayer	144	143	153	137
Trinity	71	65	65	
Union Grove	115	122		128
United	528	525	561	
Victory- KC	103	88	100	91
Willow Springs-Mtn. Grove	75		74	

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

MISSOURI STATE YOUTH CONFERENCE 2003

Ken Freeman



From surviving on the streets to full-time evangelism, Ken Freeman is a living illustration of the Apostle Paul's description of "a new creature in Christ."

(2 Corinthians)



Forty Days is an appropriate name for a band of musicians who have walked through some tests and have come through on the other side with a renewed commitment to share their story through the musical platform they've been given.

CONALVIST Don't conform... Be transformed...

Location

Windermere Baptist Camp

Date

November 14th - 15th

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Cost

If Postmarked Before Oct. 22nd - \$40 Before Nov. 10th - \$45 At the door - \$50

Substitutions \$5 @ Registration No Refunds

Directions

From St. Louis:

Take I-44 West approx. 170 miles to Hwy 5 (Lebanon, MO) Hwy 5 North to Hwy 54. Make a left (West) on 54. Make a right off Hwy AA and look for signs on the right.

From Springfield:

Take Hwy 65 North to Hwy 54. Make a right on 54 (East). Make a left (West) on Hwy AA. Watch for sign on the right.

Friday, November 14TH

4:00 p.m. - Begin Registration

7:00 p.m. - Supper

7:45 p.m. - Forty Days - Concert

8:45 p.m. - Meet Ken Freeman

10:00 p.m. - Break

10:15 p.m. - Late Night Options

* Workshops

* Youth Workers Reception

* Hang Out Time

11:00 p.m. - Cabin Devotions

11:30 p.m. - Lights Out

Saturday, November 15TH

7:30 a.m. - Breakfast

8:45 a.m. - Session 2 K. Freeman

10:00 a.m. - Break

10:30 a.m. - Session 3 K. Freeman

11:45 a.m. - Lunch

1:00 p.m. - OFF THE WALL

* Games

* Youth Workers Only!

* Presentation

1:45 p.m. - Break

2:00 p.m. - Closing Session

K. Freeman

Off-The Wall

Will be brought to you by FWBBC & Hillsdale FWBC

CONTACT INFO

Windermere: (573) 346-5200

MSYMB (913) 685-2855

Camper Medical Release Form Windermere Baptist Assembly Roach, MO

Camper's Name			Sex	Age	_
Parent or Legal Gu	ıardian				_
Home Address _	(Street)	(City)		(Tip Code)	_
		Business Phone(_			
		h?			
		If yes, what?			
If not available in a					
1		Phone ()		
		Phone (
I,(Parent or Guardian)	, ha	aving legal custody of			
who resides with m	e at the above	address, am entrusting the care	e of him/h	er to the adults	responsible for
		hild has been enrolled during th			, 2003 through
November 15 th , 200	3 at Winderm	ere Baptist Assembly, located a	t Roach, l	Missouri.	
Conference: Misso	ouri Free Will	Baptist State Youth Conference			
permission to the said surgery for my child as	ent for the health physician to hos s named above. I	Authorization For Emergency an selected by the camp personnel en of my child, in the event I cannot be pitalize, secure proper treatment for, a also authorize said physician or any nation thus acquired, if requested, to the secure of the campaigness of the cam	trusted with e reached in and to orde physician o	i an emergency. II r injection and/or a or hospital who has	hereby give mesthesia and/or
Signature of Parent or Guar	dian)		_ (Date)		

(PLEASE PHOTOCOPY ONE FOR EACH ATTENDEE)

2003 Missouri State Youth Conference

Group Registration Form (Must be Postmarked by October 10th)

Croup Loador		City	
Group Leader_		Leader's Phone #	
Address		City	Zip
Guys		Girls	
1		1	
Grade	Phone #	Grade Ph	ione #
2	D) //		
Grade	Phone #	2 PI	ione #
3	DI //	3	
Grade	Phone #	Pr	ione #
4		4	
Grade	Phone #	Grade P	hone #
5		5.	
Grade	Phone #	Grade I	Phone #
Grade	Phone #	Grade P	hone #
Grade	Phone #	PI	ione #
Grade	Phone #	Grade Pl	ione #
	N //		
Grade	Phone #	Grade P	hone #
Grade	Phone #	Grade P	none #
Male Sponsors		Female Sponsors	
1		1	
Grade	Pnone #		hone #
	DI //		
2			
Grade	Phone #	P	none #
Grade 3	Phone #	Grade Pl	none #
Grade 3 Grade	Phone #	Grade P 3 Grade P	hone #
Grade 3 Grade	Phone #	Grade Pl 3 Grade Pl	hone #

O'Fallon, Mo. 63366
COST: IF POSTMARKED BY: OCT $22^{nd} = \$40$ NOV. $10^{th} = \$45$ At The Door = \$50 Substitutions \$5 @ Registration No Refunds

816 S. Woodlawn



Cost: \$11 Per Person
Max # Per Group: 15
If you have a Smaller Group
you will be allowed to join



another Group to reach 15

Don't forget to call if you have any questions at all!
Ben Crabtree (youth board member)
314-575-1314

Team building is an important part of your youth groups' ability to grow. If we do not work as a team then we are not going to be able to move forward. This is what the **Edge** is for.

A team building experience.

The staff at Windermere has worked together to make a new and exciting event for us to participate in. It is an adventure course with very challenging and tough obstacles that will test your faith. (Ropes, Rock Climbing Walls, Zip Lines, Etc.)

We as a youth board wanted to present this as an opportunity for your youth groups to work together as a team while you are at Windermere. Please note this year is a trial run and everyone may or may not get a chance to participate as we are on a first come/first serve basis.

phone (Iome Phone ()	Iome Address	ex Age arent or Legal Guardian
	Illergic to any medication If Yes, what	ne with?	ne with?
		Iome Phone ()	Iome Address Iome Phone () Which Church did you come with?
come with?	arent or Legal Guardianlome Address	arent or Legal Guardian	

Dear Youth Pastor,

Please send your group in all at once. Make sure you have paid in advance. In the event of not being able to participate in the Edge, you will be refunded your money. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

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Parcin	10	guardian),	naving	legal	legal custody	of

who resides

with me at the above address, am entrusting the care of him/her to the adults responsible for the camp program in which the child has been enrolled during the dates of November 14th, 2003 through November 15th, 2003 at Windermere Baptist Assembly, located at Roach, Missouri.

Conference: Missouri Free Will Baptist
State Youth Conference
Permission slip for: The Edge

Authorization for Emergency Care

I hereby give permission to the physician selected by the camp personnel entrusted with the care of my child to x-rays, routine test and treatment for the health of my child, in the event I cannot be reached in an emergency. I hereby give permission to the said physician to hospitalize, secure proper treatment for, and physician or any physician or hospital that has previously treated my child, to disclose any information thus acquired, if requested, to the camp's insurance carrier.

Student Signature	Parent or Guardian Signature

Insurance Policy #

Insurance Provider

Insurance Policy #

Please return this form to your youth pastor.



Dodson Update

St. Croix, Virgin Islands

We're off to a good start, and are praising the Lord for this and thanking you for all the prayers. You have been so faithful to keep us in your prayers and to support us, and we do appreciate this so very much. We are down in count a little this year, only in the

260's, and really need about 20 more to help shore up the budget. The good news is that we have already had eight kids saved. Please help us pray that we might reach their families.

We have some great teachers and the staff is doing a wonderful job. So many of our people worked so hard all summer that we really began the year in a tired state, but God has blessed with a good start. We are looking forward to a little cooler weather, though. We just aren't looking forward to the tropical storm they say might be coming. . .

We had someone new to call last night and say that they were going to send some funds for our gym. The money is coming in little by little. Thank you for all you have done. Every life that is touched on this island for God's Kingdom is precious, and you have played a large part in this. Continue to pray for us and let us know what is happening in your churches and family.

Your missionaries in St. Croix, The Dodsons



Greetings from Abidjan,

Thanks for bringing us back home. We *think* the mice/rats have left our house.

Jerry's made several trips upcountry, but only

one behind rebel lines (it was both very encouraging and very discouraging.) As far as the church work all goes very well although people-not just Christians- are harrassed daily. Life upcountry has always been hard—it is even more complicated now. Praise the Lord with us for the Believers faithfulness/ firmness in their faith.

Because of the troubled country, FWB Missions has changed. Robert and Pam West resigned. The Nichols Family have transferred to Panama. Dr and Mrs. Eagleton will be returning to Brazil. Presently only Jerry and I are "on the field". Others hope to return following their stateside assignment, but honestly we are all "on hold" waiting to see what happens next and trying to daily be effective for Our Lord.

All three churches in Abidjan are being blessed. Jerry just made 5 benches (with backs) for the 3rd church as we didn't have enough seating space last Sunday.

With two Dobermans (watchdogs) and a talking parrot, we live in a zoo with many beautiful blooming flowers, several producing banana plants and growing papaye trees...life is good!

As we consider Thanksgiving, please know that your interest, love and prayers for His Work here are greatly appreciated...and producing **eternal fruit**. We all thank you very much.

Jerry, Carol and the African Believers.

Bivens Continued from 5

Guatemalan Independence day Sept 15th and Mexican Independence day Sept. 16th. We planned a special pot luck dinner and the women cooked up their specialities. We had 55 in attendance without any outside visitors! We could still count four or five families who sometimes attend and missed that day. So, we are encouraged with some slow growth and our people bringing visitors. Although at times, we are just plain wrung out and tired.

This past Sunday, after our dinner, we loaded a dozen people up on our church van and drove down to Owasso OK for a special service with the Rejoice congregation. Our people were delighted with the afternoon drive, seeing the sights, and visiting Oklahoma. They were quite impressed with the church building at Rejoice and the gracious reception they received. We were priviliged to hear Brother Jonathan Snow, missionary to Japan, and see a film clip he had prepared. Our folks were touched by that experience and will be praying for him. We were served pizza following the service and came home with two big boxes full to share. Ruth is enjoying the use of a beautiful "new" car which was given to her by Mrs Fran Moudy and her son. Miss Fran has been a sweet friend to us since our first visit to Indian Creek Association back in 1995. She is confined to a nursing home

now and had offered her car for sale. When she found out that Ruth wanted to buy it she lowered the price, then when the day came to make the translaction, she and her son agreed to just give us the car. It is a 1989 Olds 88 that has been kept in the garage, and "driven to church on Sunday." It only had 38,600 actual miles and is as lovely as brand new. Needless to say, we are thankful to the Lord for His provision and to the Moudys for allowing Him to work through them.

We also ask your prayer for Brother Duane Littlefield, the Indian Creek Association district clerk. Yesterday the doctors discovered a mass in his abdomen and one in his lung. They will be doing a biopsy next week. And, for Brother Perry Watson, pastor in Wilburton OK who is dealing with cancer. We love these two dear Brothers and ask the Lord to keep his protecting hand upon them and show Himself strong in their behalf. Please keep us in your prayer, there is so much work to do and we feel a bit stretched at times. Pray for the Lord to raise up or bring us mature Christian workers who can teach Sunday School and help with the music. We rely on your continuing prayer.

Maximize Your Investments

by Marjorie Workman

Who isn't interested in making money work for them? Or how to make investments grow? This is especially true in light of the declining investment market of the past few years. Diversify is a common word used by financial advisers. "Don't put all your eggs in one basket" is another investment tip.

Women Nationally Active for Christ has made it possible for you to carry out these tips. Make a monthly commitment for \$10 by completing the form below and mailing to WNAc. I made a faith commitment to Free Will Baptist Bible College almost forty years ago, to which I am still committed. Also, during those forty years my husband and I have made faith commitments to various missionaries and ministries. Until a few months ago, it never occurred to me that I could do the same for WNAC. And why shouldn't I?

WNAC is worthy of my support and needs additional finances. The membership dues set in 1992 are not adequate to meet the escalating operational expenses of today. WNAC is a service organization supporting the denomination's interests in missions, education, and local church outreachgiving more than \$500,000 to missions and missions causes in 2002. WNAC does not receive a percentage of the denomination's Together Way Funds, only designated gifts.

You, too, can diversify your faith commitments. Fill out the form below. The returns are eternal, Matthew 6:19-21.

.

p ecause I desire to help women know Christ and make Him known in the

BY FAITH I MAKE THIS COMMITMENT.

Dhome, the church, the community, and the world,

Trusting God to provide, I will give \$10 each month to support the office ministries of Women Nationally Active for Christ.

Name					
Address					
City			State	 Zip	
E-mail add	ress				

"For God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things may abound to every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:7b-8

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
WNAC • P.O. Box 5002 • Antioch, TN 37011

FWBBC RECEIVES GIFT

Free Will Baptist Bible College is honored to have been the recipient of \$115,250 from the Jeanette Riley Trust. The gift came to the college recently in response to the wishes of Mrs. Riley, who passed away March 14, 2003, in Olathe, Kansas. Her husband, Orlie, died in September 1998.

Mr. and Mrs. Riley retired to Florida in 1972 from Canton, Illinois, where Mr. Riley owned and managed a tire business. They learned of the college from Rev. Larry Montgomery, then pastor of Hollywood FWB Church, Hollywood, Florida, where they attended. Rev. Montgomery, a former trustee of the college, said, "The Rileys were friends to every pastor. They especially appreciated the training that I and Rev. John Gilliland, who preceded me at the Hollywood church, received at Free Will Baptist Bible College."

Mr. Phil Riley, trustee of the trust and Mrs. Riley's nephew, said "They loved the Lord and their church and were interested in assisting young men and women to prepare for Christian service."

FWBBC President Matthew Pinson said, "This generous gift from the estate of Mrs. Riley is a testimony to her love for God and Free Will Baptist Bible College. In remembering the college in her will, Mrs. Riley's investment in the lives of students will continue even now that she has gone home to be with the Lord."

Fay Thompson to Release Book

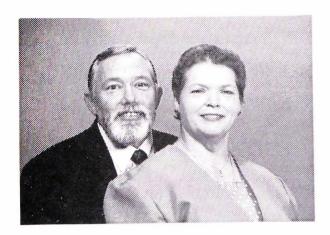
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—Fay Jennings Thompson, who taught voice and piano at Free Will Baptist Bible College for over 20 years and served for 34 years as pianist at Immanuel Baptist Church in Nashville, has written a book on early gospel convention and community singing entitled, *Notes on Shaped Notes*.

The book spans the years from the time of the early seven shaped-note songbooks by reporting on the pioneers and their publications. It includes information on the music schools that swept the South, coming out of Virginia into Tennessee and Texas. In addition to 38 brief chapters on the history of convention singing, Mrs. Thompson has included more than 50 photographs of those gospel music pioneers, including one of herself with Sargent Alvin York, who became influential in convention singing after his conversion.

Mrs. Thompson and her parents, Oliver and Alma Jennings, comprised the famed Jennings Trio, a widely-haled group in convention singing.

Notes on Shaped Notes is due to be released in mid December. Copies are \$12, plus \$3 for shipping. Orders may be sent to:

Fay Jennings Thompson 712 Gen. George Patton Rd. Nashville, TN 37221-2461



Wests Resign After 21 Years in Côte d'Ivoire

Robert and Pam West, who were appointed to Côte d'Ivoire in 1982 as maintenance missionaries for the hospital in Doropo, have submitted their resignation from service as general church-planting missionaries in Kafolo in northern Ivory Coast.

The Wests returned to Côte d'Ivoire in June after having been forced to leave the country during the coup d'etat near the end of 2002. They joined Jerry and Carol Pinkerton who had returned a few days earlier. The two couples remained in Abidjan, but recently Robert and Jerry made a trip to the north to assess the works in rebel-controlled areas.

Finding unstable conditions in the Kafolo area, sensing the inability to physically handle the stress of those conditions, and feeling unsuited for working in the megacity of Abidjan, Robert and Pam determined they are better equipped for a stateside ministry of some kind.

"God has blessed these 21 years," declare the Wests. "We praise God for the privilege and opportunity to have been involved in reaching the world for Christ. We will continue to be missionaries in our hearts."

The Board of Foreign Missions accepted the couple's resignation and expressed gratitude and appreciation for their years of fruitful ministry. Their official date of resignation is September 30. They are scheduled to return to the States late in September.

Islamic Challenge continued from page 4

gospel. God promised to open doors for witness, if we are faithful to discern what is appropriate in time and place. In Christianity, there is always a right thing to do, a right way to do it, and a right time to do it." (*Unveiling Islam,* Kregel Publications, 2002, pp. 223,224,226).

Note Paul's prayer request: "And at the same time pray for us also, that God may open a door to us for the Word (the Gospel), to proclaim the mystery concerning Christ, on account of which I am in prison" (Colossians 4:3, Amplified Bible).

May Muslim people learn of God's love through you?

Two North Carolina Churches Suffer Flood Damage from Hurricane

e-mail from Jim Marcum

Dear Friends and Fellow Laborers:

Brother Tommy Dubose, pastor of Davis FWB Church, called me this morning with bad news and a plea for help. Brother Tom says that the parsonage took on approximately 18" of water, while the church took on 4" to 8" of water. He said that they need manpower, if they can get it. They have to remove all of the pews, carpet and other furniture and clean. Personally, the Dubose family had recently purchased two vehicles and lost both of those to flooding, as well as personal items in the parsonage. As I understand it, their only means of transportation is now an old 4x4 that he has used for hunting.

I just talked with Brother Ernest Laxton, pastor of the Stacy FWB Church, and he and his family are just a few miles from their church and community. Davis and Stacy are only 6 miles apart, on the same strip. Brother Ernest said that he has been in contact with his people and they too have been flooded. Their church and parsonage has been flooded with approximately 8 or more inches of water. I believe the Laxton lost a vehicle as well.

There are still some pastors close to that area that I have not heard from yet. I have left messages and am waiting, but at this moment, Stacy and Davis are the only S.O.S. calls that I have received. If you can provide any work teams, please leave Brother Tom a message on his cell phone answering service. The number is (252) 342-8961. Brother Laxton's cell phone is (252) 241-2269. If you have difficulty making contact, please feel free to contact me at (919) Hm:735-7696, Office:734-4010, or Cell:920-8453. I will do what I can in between. These two men are going to keep me up on their needs as they continue to assess the damage. I will be in contact with you as soon as I know more.

Pray for these churches, their pastors and their communities as they begin the process of "digging and bailing out!"

God Bless, Brother Jim

Matthew 6:33

SCM Needs Your Help

Friends & Neighbors,

Your friends at SCM are working on another project to include event, game or teaching ideas in our monthly SCM update page in Contact magazine. We're looking for submissions for potential inclusion in our monthly spot.

If we select your submission, we'll give you credit in a national publication and send you a cool t-shirt. You're welcome to send as many ideas as you want, but no promises, and please try to limit your text to 200 words or less.

Thanks for your support and we'll look forward to your ideas pouring in.

Working for Him and His Kids, Dean Jones, Director Student and Children Ministries

Christians trim back on tithing

One of the most fundamental duties of Christian living tithing, or giving a tenth of one's income to the church - appears to be increasingly ignored in many churches.

The Barna Research Group, a polling firm that focuses on trends within the Christian community in the U.S., recently reported that tithing declined by about 62% last year.

Thom Rainer of the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth said he believed the drop in | giving indicates that churches are beginning to pay a price i for catering to a generation that focuses more on what a church can do for them rather than what they can do for God through their church.

He told Baptist Press that over the last 30 years, many people have approached church with a consumer mentality - in other words, a selfish outlook that asks what the church can do for them. And he said as churches have focused on meeting those demands without challenging people abou their service for God, tithing has dropped.

Rainer said leaders must understand "we have dumbed down membership to where it means nothing." He added however, that this trend can be turned around by encourag ing young people to think more about the mission of a church and what they can do to help accomplish that purpose.

Percentages that tithed in 2002

Source: Barna Research Group, 5/19/03

Tithing is defined as giving at least 10% of one's income to the church.

All Americans 3%

"Born again" adults - those people who said they had made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ

Born Again adults

Evangelicals



Evangelicals - subset of those defined as "born again:' but who also believe in the inerrancy of Scripture, salvation by faith alone and that they have a responsibility to share their faith with others

First printed in Agape Press 7/22/03 and the AFA Journal 10/0

Food for Thought

How Would You Feel. . .

If God gave us the same amount of time and attention that we devote to Him?

If God put as many things ahead of us as we put ahead of Him?

If God offered as many excuses as we do, and if th excuses were no more justifiable than ours?

If God's promises were no more certain than ours?

he hottest places in hell are reserved for those who, in a period of moral crisis, maintain their neutrality.

Copied - The Voice in the Wilderness

Aim at heaven and you get the earth thrown in. Aim at the earth and you get neither.

Financial Report September 2003

d i	
u	Cooperative Disbursements
	September 2003 \$60,446.51
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y l	17.00%Executive Office 10,275.90
У	3.00%General Fund 1,813.40
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	National Home Missions Board
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	Hillsdale Free Will Bapt. College
	Executive Department
	Layman's Board
	Radio & TV Commission
	Theological Commission
	Historical Commission
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	Belton\$369.36
	Berean\$72.00
	Bethel- El Dorado Springs \$446.76
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_	Black Oak\$663.77
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	Cornerstone
	Crossroads-Wentzville\$642.00
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	DeSoto 1st
	Faith & Hope- Aurora \$119.46
	Faith & Hope- Willow Springs \$165.24
	Farmington 1st \$3,115.43
	Fellowship \$1,500.00
	Fordland \$694.70
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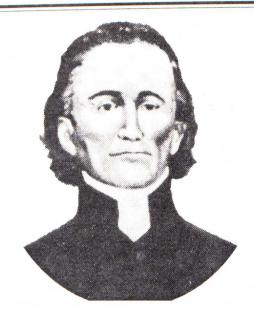
Gospel Light\$100.00 Grace \$1,917.63 Grant Ave. \$1,199.40

Green Hills\$50.00

Green Hills, Kirksville	\$215.00
Hannibal	\$690.00
Hannon	\$1,000.00
Harmony	\$859.45
Hartville	\$1,507.00
Harvest	\$262.60
Hopewell	\$319.00
Houston 1st	\$317.71
Hurryville	
Jackson	\$235.10
Joplin 1st	
Kings Way	
Koshkonong	\$180.00
Lead Hill	
Leadington	
Lebanon	
Lebanon 1st	. \$1,348.22
Liberty-Nevada	
Lone Star	
Macedonia-Niangua	\$154.38
Marshfield	\$297.00
Merls Chapel	\$163.00
Mill Creek	
Mine LaMotte	
Monett 1st	
Mountain Grove 1st	
Mt. Pisgah	. \$1,045.02
Mt. Pisgan	\$555.00
Mt. Zion- Gower	
Myrtle	
Neosho 1st	
New Hope	\$520.00
New Life- Licking	\$582.17
Niangua	
	\$303.00
Number One	
Number One	\$217.40
O' Fallon 1st	\$217.40
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Green Hills, Kirksville\$215.00

West Plains 1st	\$1,073.00	Olivet	\$30.00	New Testament	\$75.00	C. E. Board	
Willow Springs- Mtn. Grove .		Palabras De Vida Eterna	\$15.00	Oak Hill		Lebanon Bible & Book Store	\$130.00
Wolf Creek		Park Hills 1st		O'Fallon 1st	\$81.00		
Total	\$60,446.51	Park Hills 1st		Park Hills 1st	\$143.09	Senior Adult Ministries	
		Parker, G	\$15.00	Park Hills 1st	\$136.36		6120.00
C		Parkview	\$250.05	Rader, J	\$20.00	Lebanon Bible & Book Store	3 \$ 130.00
Show-Me Plan		Pinkerton, J	\$45.00	Richwoods 1st	\$56.00		
Barker, Rev. J		Pleasant Hill	\$45.00	Rock Chapel	\$111.54	Youth Ministries Board	
Belton		Pleasant Home	\$330.00	Ruble, N.	\$10.00	Lebanon Bible & Book Store	e\$130.00
Berean	\$30.00	Pleasant Ridge - Urbana		Thayer			
Berry, R	\$15.00	Pogue, R		Thebeau, B			
Bethel - El Dorado Springs	\$446.76	Purdy		Trinity		Free Will Baptist Bible Co	
Bethel - Festus	\$45.00	Richwoods		Union Light		Farmington 1st	150.00
Black Oak	\$60.00	Rock Chapel		United		Ruble, N	
Brown, J	\$15.00	Rogers, B		Unity		DeSoto 1st	
Buffalo 1st		Rolla 1st		Verdella		Oak Hill	10.00
Burns, J	\$60.00	Royal Oak		West Plains		Thayer	50.00
Buxton, G				Wolf Creek		Verdella	170.00
Cabool		Ruble N		Total		Total	\$435.00
Calvary Chapel		Springfield 1st		10tai	\$3,954.43		
Cartee, J		Stockton					
Central		Thayer				Hilledale Free Will Pantis	t Collogo
		Trinity		State Users Missions		Hillsdale Free Will Baptis	
Chrisman, M		Union Light	\$150.00	State Home Missions	#05.00	Farmington 1st	175.00
Copper Mines		United	\$712.41	Belton		Oak Hill	
Copper Mines - Teens & Jr.		Unity	\$75.00	Bethel-Festus		Thayer	
Copper Mines - Yg. Adult Cl		Verdella		Central		Fordland	
Cornerstone - Mtn. Grove	\$342.00	Victory - Alton		Cross Roads- Lebanon		Belton	
Cuba		Walker, H. Jr		D. Skiles		Monett 1st	
Darnell, W	\$15.00	Walnut Grove		DeSoto 1st	\$90.00	Hannon	100.00
DeSoto 1st		White, R.		Fellowship	\$125.00	Total	
DeSoto 1st - Auditorium Cla		Willhite, L.		Fordland			
Faith - St. Louis		Willow Springs - Mtn. Gro		Gospel Light		Totals Committee (: I al war
Faith & Hope - W.S.		Willow Springs 1st		Grace		Trula Cronk Home for Cl	
Farmington 1st				Lebanon Bible & Bookstore		Farmington 1st	15.00
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				Myrtle		New Life- Monett	
Fordland	\$250.00	Foreign Missions				Degonia, J	10.00
Fourth	\$75.00	Belton	\$30.00	Neosho 1st		De Soto 1st	
Freeman Chapel				New Testament		Nosser, M	25.00
Gospel Light		Central		Niangua		Unity	20.00
Grace		Chapman, A		Niangua		Belton	
Graham, S		Cuba		O' Fallon 1st		New Hope	
Grant Ave.		Cuba VBS		Ozark 1st		Hannon	
Greenfield	\$180.00	Farmington 1st		Pleasant Ridge	\$20.00	Total	
Hannibal - WAC	\$60.00	Fordland	\$10.00	Republic	\$25.00	10tai	\$1,040.00
Hannon		G. M	\$157.00	Rolla 1st	\$293.50		
Happy Hill		Grant Ave	\$15.00	Thayer	\$110.00	Women Nationally Activ	e for Christ
Happy Hill	\$60.00	Houston 1st	\$210.00	Trinity		Ruble, J	
Harmony	\$53.29	Lewis, D		Union		11000, 01	
Hartville	\$240.00	Matthews, A		United			
Harvest	\$50.00	Minor, K		Unity		Rev. John McClure	
Houston 1st	\$615.75	New Testament		White, R		Carthage	15.00
nousion 1st	\$613.73	Niangua		Total		Grace	
Hurryville	\$300.00	O'Fallon 1st		10tai	\$2,505.21	Mountain Grove 1st	10.00
Hurryville Sr. Adult S.S. Cla						Total	\$40.00
Jackson	\$47.50	Park Hills 1st					
Joplin 1st	\$75.00	Pleasant Home		Youth Camp			
Leadington	\$204.00	Rock Chapel		Park Hills 1st	44.95	Vergel Maness	
Lebanon 1st	\$150.00	Rolla 1st				Myrtle	88.00
Lebanon F.W.B	\$30.00	Springfield VBS		Cornerstone		Gospel Light	
Macedonia - Purdy	\$12,000.00	Thayer	\$10.00	Hartville		Grace	
Maggart, D	\$45.00	Trinity	\$159.32	Lebanon Bible & Bookstore		Total	
Malloy, A		Verdella	\$29.00	Rolla 1st	20.00	ТОШ	
Merl's Chapel		West Plains 1st		New Home- Hartville			
Mill Creek	\$140.00	Total		New Life- Monett		Morgan Wood	
Mill Creek C. W. F			,_,	DeSoto 1st			\$15.00
Mill Creek Young Adult S.S				Stephens, T	10.00		
Mine La Motte	\$75.00	Nat'l Home Missions		Thayer	55.00	Daisa Baishbaff	
MO Women Active For Chi		Belton	\$40.00	Union	30.00	Brian Brinkhoff	10.00
MO Cooperative Plan		Carthage		Niangua		New Testament	
		Central		Trinity		Unity	
Monett 1st				Willow Springs- Mt. Grove		lotal	\$22.50
Mountain Grove 1st		Cuba		M. D. I			
Mouser, J		DeSoto 1st		\ /			
Mt. Pisgah		Farmington 1st		0-11			\$200.0
Myrtle		Fordland				the state of the s	
Neosho 1st		Fourth					
New Beginning	\$189.70	Gospel Light	\$240.00	Buffalo 1st			
New Home - Hartville		Grace		Hannon			\$150.0
New Hope		Grant Avenue		Hannon for Laundry Roon			
New Life - Licking		Hannon		West Plains 1st	25.00		
New Life - Monett		Houston 1st		Mountain Grove 1 st	10.00		
Ling		Jackson			22.62	verdella	\$424.2
New Testament		Monett 1st		Total	\$1,742.30)	
New Testament	£3U UU		\$5.00				ist Church
Niangua			CCE OF	1		Liberty Free Will Pan	
Niangua Noel , D	\$15.00	Mountain Grove 1st			a	Liberty Free Will Bap	
Niangua Noel , D Number One	\$15.00 \$60.00	Mountain Grove 1st Mt. Pisgah	\$25.00	Camp Development Fun		Unity	
Niangua Noel , D Number One Oak Grove - Houston	\$15.00 \$60.00 \$30.00	Mountain Grove 1st Mt. Pisgah Neosho 1st	\$25.00 \$50.00	Camp Development Fun Myrtle	115.00	Unity	
Niangua Noel , D Number One	\$15.00 \$60.00 \$30.00 \$20.00	Mountain Grove 1st Mt. Pisgah Neosho 1st New Home- Hartville	\$25.00 \$50.00 \$10.00	Camp Development Fun Myrtle Rock Chapel	115.00	Unity O George Lemelin	\$12.5



Benjamin Randall Day Offering

November 23, 2003

Please help the National Home Mission Department meet the challenge of reaching North America and territories with the Gospel through:

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