

# THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

**Volume 75 • Number 2**  
**February 2004**

## Missouri Women Help Build Kitchen in Mexico

"Nothing is more fun than giving a dear friend a wonderful gift," says Ruth Bivens. "I couldn't wait to get to Altamira and hand Sister Fela the money the Missouri women raised to help with their new kitchen."



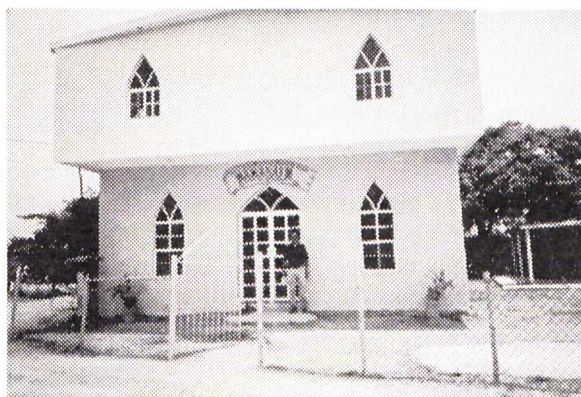
From left to right:  
Sister Brenda Cole, Sister Fela de Pacheco,  
Ruth Bivens, Brother Inocente Pacheco

Sister Felicitas "Fela" de Pacheco brought a stack of hand embroidered tortilla wraps, decorated kitchen towels, and Time Out Dolls to sell at the National Convention in Tampa, Florida. The members of the Mahanaim Free Will Baptist Church in Altamira have labored and sacrificed over the past several years building a new building. The sanctuary is finished, they are working on the Sunday School rooms, but the women are getting anxious to get into a new kitchen too. They have sold tamales, and fixed meals to sell-each one donating their ingredients and time-in an effort to speed the process. At the end of the National Convention Sister Fela was pleased to have something over \$100 to add to the construction fund. Ruth Bivens brought all of the left over hand crafts home with her to see what she could do with them. At the Missouri WAC retreat Ruth sold a few items and at the Oklahoma State meeting Ruth had \$70 to give to Sister Fela. She was pleased and grateful. But Ruth told her, "I will have more for you when I come to

Mexico in December because several ladies' groups are working on projects."

As letters came from the State WAC Treasurer, Reva Baker, Ruth began to get excited. She called the Pachecos and told them, "I have some money for your kitchen. I will bring it when we come down for the National Convention."

Ruth cashed all of the checks and arranged them in an envelope with the dollar bills on top of the tens, on top of a couple of 50s, on top of some \$100 bills. Arriving at the Pacheco home late on Thursday evening before the convention she decided to wait until everyone was present before handing Sister Fela the envelope. Friday morning Sister Fela and her two daughters, who had helped make the craft items, were together in the living room when Ruth pulled out the envelope. "This is the money from the Missouri ladies for your kitchen," she told her.



The Mahanaim church with Brother Pacheco standing in front, the old kitchen, a tar paper roof over four poles, can be seen at the right.



# "STOP the presses" as we start one!

Insight into the ribbon cutting ceremony at Randall House Publications  
By Ron Hunter, Jr. • General Director & CEO

What's the big deal about a printing press? A press is not exciting. It is not dramatic or animated. It is not video or music. In fact, the press may be the least exciting of all forms of media. But make no mistake, the press continues to answer the demands of society today. Consider its history.

By divine providence, the press was invented in Germany (in 1455) where the Reformation would hinge on the distribution of mass amounts of printed material. The Reformation could not have taken place without the printing press—a key tool utilized by leaders to spread their message faster and more efficiently than ever before.

The printing press is still very much in demand. Because of the press, a message can be carried in the same description to millions of people with great efficiency. Imagine not having any of the knowledge you have gained by having read a book, newspaper, brochure, magazine, or Sunday School Bible study guide.

So what is the big deal about Randall House buying a new press? Quite simply, it is a wise economic decision that will increase our efficiency and enhance our ability to help denominational efforts. This press makes good business sense.

Over the last few years Randall House has outsourced hundreds of thousands of dollars in printing because we have not had the capability to handle some jobs. While still keeping most of our jobs in house, in the last two to three years we have outsourced around \$410,000 a year in printing. With this new press we can immediately cut those costs in half and virtually eliminate them in the near future.

The new press is a 1997 Heidelberg 74 SpeedMaster that has a book value of over \$500,000. (It sells new for over 1 million dollars.) This press was doing very light work for a government municipality in Minnesota before the print shop was discontinued as a program under former Governor Jesse Ventura. We found it for sale at an undervalued price. We negotiated hard and lowered the price another 17 percent and purchased it for just under \$400,000.

The Heidelberg will replace our Solna 2 color press that has been costing us major maintenance dollars and down time. By bringing back in half of the jobs we've been outsourcing, this press will be paid for in just over 5 years.

This is a big deal for Randall House because this is *your* press—dedicated and commissioned to serve you. It will be a key component, not only in saving us a tremendous amount of money, but also in bringing more full color to our new CLEAR Sunday School curriculum coming in September of 2004. This press enables us to segue to even greater excellence in our product line with the greatest amount of stewardship.

This is part of the larger vision and plan to move Randall House forward, expanding our influence to extend God's Kingdom. We want to be the denomination's printer and with this move, there will be very little we can't print for any national ministry, state ministry or church.

We were proud to share the dedication service of our press with the leaders of our denomination during the Leadership Conference. On December the 9<sup>th</sup> we had a ribbon cutting ceremony, and lunch was served in the print production area. We had a packed house, and everyone had a wonderful time seeing the press run.

We printed a commemorative timeline entitled "From Gutenberg to Heidelberg: Taking God's Word to the 21st Century" and gave it to each attendee. This time line details the impact the printing press has had on the gospel since the 1400s. This piece will be given to everyone who orders curriculum from Randall House or one of our affiliate bookstores during the next quarter.



Nathan Ruble with Randall House  
Director Ron Hunter

## Smile

"An optimist is a person who does not fully understand the situation." Pictured beneath the words was a man standing in waist-high water with a surf board in his hands, and behind him were a couple of sharks!

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**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.



## NEWS FROM HARMONY CHURCH

By Delphia Kelso

The Harmony Free Will Baptist Church in Parkville, Missouri is pleased to announce the arrival of their new pastor, Rev. David Mingus. Bro. Mingus and his wife Ladonna began thier first service on September 28, 2003. They recently moved here from Michigan and are now living in Spring Hills, Kansas.

Rev. Mingus pastored in Michigan seven years before being transferred with FAA to Olathe, Kansas. The Mingus' have two sons who are ordained Free Will Baptist ministers.

The Harmony church celebrated its 27<sup>th</sup> annual homecoming in September with approximately 150 in attendance. Bro. Jimmy Kiser, a former pastor, was the guest speaker. The Cooper family provided the special music. The church was organized in 1976 with 42 charter members. Several of the charter members which had moved from the area returned for the celebration.



Rev. and Mrs. David Mingus

## Youth Look

by Ann (Poletti) Robinson

One of the former school bus drivers in the district where I am employed used to have a sign that hung at the front of his bus that read something like this: I have gone to find myself. If I return before I am found, I will be right back. I was a bit disgusted with the buzz phrase of the late 20th century being "gone to find myself because I don't know who I am" as I saw this as an excuse to shirk responsibility. However, I laughed at that sign every time I saw it.

I know everyone struggles with insecurity at some time or another. Our confidence in who we are may wane from time to time. However, our unshakable confidence should always come through Christ Jesus Himself. After all, He was a mighty example when tempted by Satan; He simply showed that He didn't have to prove Himself to anyone.

Who am I? I may not always have the right answer here on this earth but I am assured of one thing as found in I John 3:2 — I am a child of God!! Not by my merit, not because I've earned it, but because HE CHOSE ME. It was a gift of grace. I'm His child, that's who I am!

## Ozark Men's Rally



The First Free Will Baptist Church of Ozark will hold its annual Men's Rally March 5, 2004. Supper will be served at 5:30 p.m., and the evening service will begin at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Fred Warner will be the guest speaker.

## MOWAC Update

2004, the year Missouri Women Active for Christ have been planning for, has arrived! President Shirley Jackson is busy making final preparation for hosting our National Women Active for Christ when we meet in Kansas City in July. Missouri women did an excellent job raising funds for this event, and they are to be commended for their diligence.

In June 2003, the following projects were adopted for 2004:

Missouri Show-Me Plan .....	\$3,000.00
State Home Missionaries Jimmy and Melissa Kiser (Jefferson City) ..	3,000.00
Robbie Rutledge Work in Nevada Special Projects .....	2,000.00
WNAC .....	3,000.00



# New Year Greetings From the Pinkertons

Happy New Year to you and yours,

**S**ince the week of Christmas was busier than usual, we stayed home and slept old year out and the new one in. Someone close by shot off some fireworks, but didn't bother either our dogs or us. Perhaps the Lord will return for His Flock in 2004, wouldn't that be wonderful?

It seems this country might be on the road to peace (again). There have been so many false starts, or maybe it's because we are both from the great state of MO, but we want to SEE peace put into practice..SHOW-ME!

In spite of the troubles of this past year, the Lord's Church continues to move forward..we are so thankful for the steadfastness of the Believers. The Lord has blessed, faith grown and more added to the Kingdom. We praise the Lord for His goodness, grace and loving care.

Our families in the USA are doing well. We're THRILLED for good e-mail contact. Parents can never hear too often from their children and the GRANDS. Jerry came through with his promise. There is an air conditioner in the bedroom window. Got it at a real good price from some departing missionaries. They said it was "almost" new and hadn't been used much..which made me feel like at one time in his life the seller had been a used car man...anyway, the days are hot, but the nights cool so we haven't used it yet.

Dry Season officially arrived last Sunday. The sky was a dark grey-like thick fog. It is filled with desert sand, dirt and all sorts of airborne germs. Skin dries, wood shrinks and many folks are plagued with respiratory problems plus everything is dust covered..yuck. It's not my favorite time of year..but you don't have to worry about clothes getting a 2nd-3rd rinse from a sudden shower or being rained out of a planned picnic...so?

Thanks for remembering us with your Christmas Cards. They are all so -pretty. I'm going to share them with my Wiggle-Worm Sunday School Class. Our party was good..each received 5 small piddly gifts that brought them much pleasure, but the final gift that I thought would greatly thrill them - DIDN'T. It was an ice cream cone with Chocolate chip Ice Cream. One little girl had never seen such and wasn't about to touch it; another picked out the chips & held them in her hand..and another spit them on the floor-eeekkk. I really think they thought the chips were specks of dirt. Two kids ate two cones...

During our Christmas Eve Services at church (which were to end at midnight, but the final amen was said at 1:30am), Grace, age 7, recited Isaiah 53 from heart without missing a beat..so proud of her. The night was filled with songs, prayers of praise and a sermon. One of the illustrations Pasteur Samuel gave was about two well dressed women who were enjoying a meal in a fine restaurant when another friend passed by and asked the reason for the celebration. "Oh", replied one of the women, "it's my son's birthday". But where is the son, the 3rd lady asked.." Oh, he didn't come, he's at home." said the mother ...Isn't that strange? Then Pasteur Samuel asked how many of us had invited Jesus to his birthday party and into our hearts. One man "prayed"..his name is Joseph, so remember him in your prayers, please.

Jerry plans another trip behind rebel lines next week. He wants to encourage the Believers and see how things are going. He also hopes to regain some of our items that the rebels have borrowed(?) does that sound better than saying stolen? Two or three African Pastors will go with him..plus he will take the satellite phone so can call me here in Abidjan.

That's about it from here, for now. Please be reminded that we couldn't and wouldn't want to be here without your loyal prayer support, love and ways of showing your care. We thank God for you. Thanks so very much AND May God richly bless you.



Carol with some of her Sunday School Class.  
Grace, age 7, far right, first row recited Isa. 53

Jerry and Carol Pinkerton  
email - pinkerton4jc@cs.com  
06 B.P. 1202, Abidjan 06  
Cote d'Ivoire, Afrique  
Ivory Coast, Africa



# 2004 Minister's Retreat

March 15 - 17, 2004

Stonecroft Conference Center  
Branson, MO

## SPEAKERS

### Keith Burden

Rev. Keith Burden was elected Executive Secretary during the National Convention in 2002. He is a 1976 graduate of Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, and has a Master of Arts degree from Moody Bible Institute.

Bro. Keith has pastored 5 churches in Oklahoma and 1 in California. He served eighteen years as Assistant Clerk of the National Association and two years as clerk.



### Tim York

Kentucky pastor Tim York was elected moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists in 2003. Rev. York pastors Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church in Ashland, Kentucky.

Dr. York began preaching at age 12, ministered 11 years as a full-time evangelist, served 11 years as Kentucky's promotional secretary, and is an alumnus of Free Will Baptist Bible College.



## Cost

Double Occupancy - \$70.00 per person (Cost includes two nights lodging, five meals and two snacks.)

## Directions

Approximately 45 miles south of Springfield, Missouri, on Highway 65 (four miles south of Branson), turn right on 265 and stay left one mile to center.

## REGISTRATION FORM

Please Print:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to room with \_\_\_\_\_

**A \$20 non-refundable deposit is required for each person. Please return this registration form to: Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, MO 65536. Registration forms must arrive at the state office on or before the 10th of March.**  
*Note: Minister's wives are welcome to accompany their husbands.*



# Co-op Tops \$700,000 in 2003

Each church and individual which gave gifts to the Co-operative Plan and the Show-Me Plan in 2003 are to be commended for their Great Commission Vision. This report reflects the commitment and generosity of Missouri Free Will Baptists.

Alton .....	\$800.00	Hurryville .....	\$7,214.88	Seymour .....	\$6,213.35
Amity .....	\$1,724.04	Jackson .....	\$2,334.70	Smyrna .....	\$1,367.00
Aulsbury Chapel .....	\$2,312.02	Joplin 1st .....	\$8,195.78	South Fremont .....	\$1,530.00
Bailey .....	\$2,779.00	Jordan - Jefferson City .....	\$1,061.00	Southern Hills - KS .....	\$2,456.44
Bailey Chapel .....	\$2,175.00	Kingsway .....	\$2,468.12	Springfield 1st .....	\$15,527.25
Beacon .....	\$9,091.00	Koshkonong .....	\$1,734.00	St. Francois Association .....	\$159.40
Belton .....	\$3,980.54	Lead Hill .....	\$3,642.77	Stockton .....	\$2,203.49
Berean .....	\$776.00	Leadington .....	\$5,200.64	Terrill Road .....	\$450.00
Bethel - El Dorado Springs .....	\$4,574.40	Lebanon 1st .....	\$15,020.43	Thayer .....	\$15,226.00
Bethel - Northview .....	\$4,313.00	Lebanon FWB .....	\$5,639.96	Trinity .....	\$10,876.27
Black Oak .....	\$5,457.44	Liberty - Lebanon .....	\$385.00	Twin Oaks .....	\$5,448.00
Buffalo 1st .....	\$1,100.00	Liberty - Nevada .....	\$1,828.00	Union .....	\$240.00
Byrd .....	\$1,201.74	Lone Star .....	\$663.85	Union Grove .....	\$5,117.00
Cabool .....	\$3,332.16	Macedonia - Monett .....	\$200.00	Union Light .....	\$1,935.00
Calvary Chapel .....	\$16,865.88	Macedonia - Niangua .....	\$1,627.29	United .....	\$22,840.95
Calvary Fellowship .....	\$1,988.00	Marshfield .....	\$1,549.00	Unity .....	\$5,600.00
Cape Girardeau .....	\$7,091.44	Merls Chapel .....	\$1,652.80	Verdella .....	\$8,299.10
Carthage .....	\$3,605.00	Mill Creek .....	\$6,475.48	Viburnum .....	\$4,198.30
Central .....	\$12,573.24	Mine LaMotte .....	\$1,007.89	Victory - Alton .....	\$7,489.40
Christ Chapel .....	\$5,330.95	Monett 1st .....	\$8,316.39	Victory - Kansas City .....	\$15,507.66
Clifton .....	\$604.27	Mountain Grove 1st .....	\$16,738.78	Waynesville 1st .....	\$6,774.04
Columbia .....	\$6,437.09	Mt. Pisgah .....	\$5,135.00	West Plains 1st .....	\$9,989.00
Cooper Mines .....	\$5,722.52	Mt. Zion - Gower .....	\$513.70	Wilderness .....	\$4,537.33
Cornerstone - Joplin .....	\$500.00	Myrtle .....	\$3,154.91	Willow Springs-Mtn. Grove .....	\$3,991.51
Cornerstone - Mtn. Gr. ....	\$6,006.88	Neosho 1st .....	\$1,235.00	Wolf Creek .....	\$6,481.61
Cross Roads - Lebanon ....	\$4,273.98	New Harmony .....	\$6,400.00	<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$700,394.96</b>
Crossroads - Wentzville ....	\$8,540.00	New Home - Lebanon .....	\$513.98		
Cuba .....	\$6,551.00	New Hope - Fredericktown .....	\$2,393.14		
Desoto 1st .....	\$18,610.00	New Life - Licking .....	\$5,305.45		
Emmanuel - Colorado .....	\$430.31	Niangua .....	\$2,828.67		
Faith & Hope - Willow Sp... ..	\$1,606.76	North Five .....	\$250.23		
Faith and Hope - Aurora .....	\$910.59	Number One .....	\$2,343.83		
Farmington 1st .....	\$38,593.38	Oak Grove - Mtn. Grove ....	\$2,528.66		
Fellowship - Park Hills ....	\$17,100.00	Oak Hill - Union .....	\$5,936.00		
Fordland .....	\$8,467.71	O'Fallon 1st .....	\$18,764.93		
Fourth .....	\$3,716.86	Olivet .....	\$5,855.00		
Fredericktown 1st .....	\$2,539.00	Overland .....	\$1,145.00		
Freeman Chapel .....	\$5,303.50	Ozark 1st .....	\$20,030.45		
Gospel Light .....	\$1,200.00	Palabras De Vida Eterna .....	\$999.40		
Grace .....	\$18,195.84	Park Hills 1st .....	\$10,126.84		
Grant Ave. ....	\$13,857.39	Parkview .....	\$8,328.17		
Green Hills - Kirksville .....	\$978.75	Pleasant Hill .....	\$1,898.88		
Greenfield .....	\$1,399.00	Pleasant Home .....	\$2,320.08		
Hannibal .....	\$8,393.00	Pleasant Ridge - Urbana ...	\$1,093.00		
Hannon .....	\$11,571.00	Potosi 1st .....	\$1,945.49		
Harmony - Parkville .....	\$6,628.40	Republic .....	\$1,200.00		
Hartville .....	\$15,895.71	Richwoods 1st .....	\$3,218.00		
Harvest - Raymore .....	\$2,687.56	Rock Chapel .....	\$4,292.81		
Hazel Creek .....	\$2,731.78	Rock Springs .....	\$80.00		
Hickory Grove .....	\$168.00	Rolla 1st .....	\$3,948.00		
Hopewell .....	\$3,421.00	Royal Oak .....	\$828.00		
Houston 1st .....	\$3,902.35	Salem .....	\$353.00		

## 2003 Show-Me Plan

Bootheel .....	\$260.00
Cave Springs .....	\$15,712.62
Central Western .....	\$38,836.03
Cooperative Plan .....	\$21,011.85
Greater KC .....	\$29,720.47
Greater Springfield .....	\$12,209.00
Indian Creek .....	\$58,776.72
Laclede .....	\$2,450.00
Liberty .....	\$8,256.00
Mid-Rivers .....	\$2,287.00
Misc. ....	\$1,354.50
Mission .....	\$40,706.50
MO ARK .....	\$595.00
MO WAC .....	\$8,334.87
Northwest .....	\$10,461.19
South Central .....	\$6,070.60
Southeast .....	\$11,226.79
St. Francois .....	\$58,936.87
St. Louis .....	\$21,342.55
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$348,548.56</b>



# I Love Sunday School

By Joseph Bayly

I was reading about England in 1780, when the first Sunday school was organized. England had just lost an unpopular war with the small American colonies. A spirit of revolution was in the air. France's devastating revolution was only nine years in the future.

Children in England were being exploited as a cheap source of labor. Boys and girls as young as seven and eight were forced to work 50 to 60 hours a week—every day except Sunday—in mines, sweatshops, and factories. At this low point in British history a publisher, Robert Raikes of Gloucester, started the first Sunday school. He seems to have gotten the idea for such a school from the wife of Samuel Bradburn, one of John Wesley's most noted preachers.

"Raikes' Ragged School" was what people, including many church people, jeeringly called it, when the publisher gathered children from the lower classes on Sunday afternoons to teach them how to read and write.

The Bible was his textbook. As a result, those poor exploited children were not merely freed from the bondage of illiteracy; they were also freed from the bondage of sin. As the prototypes of tens of millions during the next two hundred years, those children discovered in Sunday school the glorious freedom of becoming sons and daughters of God.

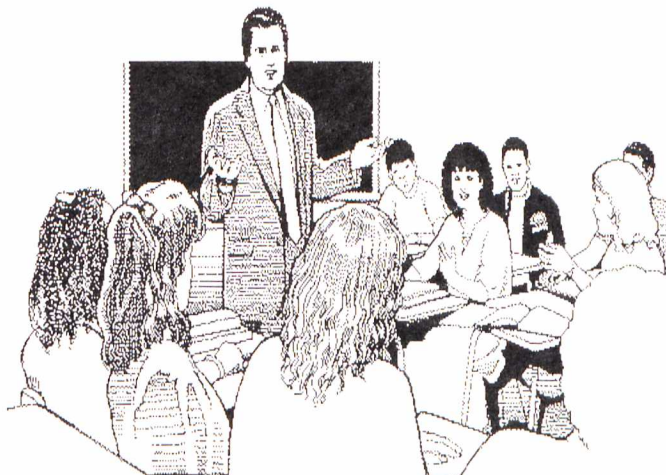
Nobody in 1780 could have foreseen the long-range effects of that Christian act of Robert Raikes: to teach children on Sunday afternoon. Raikes simply did it as his Christian duty.

Historians tell us that the Wesleyan Revival and the Sunday school, which spread from Gloucester throughout the British Isles, kept England from a disastrous revolution such as the French experienced.

The thing that impresses me especially today, when so many people are saying Sunday school is on its way out because of the critical, godless days we're living in—is that Sunday school was born in crisis and has been strongest in times of crisis . . . for 200 years.

Who knows what the effects of the Sunday school in our church may be? After all, God is the same in the United States and Canada today as He was in England in 1780.

Excerpt from *I Love Sunday School* by Joseph Bayly, David C. Cook Publishing. Joseph Bayly was a Sunday school teacher. In addition to teaching Sunday school, right up until his death, Joseph Bayly served as President of the David C. Cook Publishing Company, and authored many books. Used by permission.



# Be What You Teach

John Maxwell

People need to see what they ought to be. A cartoon punch line says, "No matter what you teach the child, he insists on behaving like his parents." That's certainly a humbling truth for all

parents.

Dennis the Menace often reinforces this truth. On one occasion, while holding the remnants of a tricycle which has been smashed to smithereens, Dennis the Menace asked his dad, "What are some of those words you say when you hit a bad golf shot?" He had learned that there was a certain way to behave when you're frustrated.

When I disciple others it is important to be what I teach or ask other to do. This is a crucial truth: We teach what we know, but we reproduce what we are. To teach others to do right is wonderful. To do right is even more wonderful! It may be a harder way to teach, but it's a much easier way to learn.

Dr. James Dobson, psychologist and author, tells us that kids begin to buy in to your spiritual guidance and direction in the areas of values at about five years of age! During the early years of your child's life you are the primary role model, the most significant person in his or her life. If what you say is different from what you do, your child will choose to imitate what you do every time. In the words of Zig Ziglar, "Your children pay more attention to what you do than what you say." So the most valuable gift you can give your little ones is the example of a clear, consistent, disciplined approach to faith in God. It is most important that they see this beginning in their earliest years. What they learn and establish in their lives during these years can go a long way toward getting them through the tumult of adolescence.

Excerpt from: *Be a People Person, Effective Leadership Through Effective Relationships*, Cook Communications Ministries. Used by permission.

## Snake Story

I came to Christ when I was ten. My Sunday school teacher told the story of the Israelites who looked at the snake on the cross and were healed and those who refused to look and died. My teacher said those who didn't come to Christ were just like the Israelites who died. I came to Jesus through fear, but I stayed because I discovered His love. -Cameroon, West Africa



## The Jonah Syndrome: Hoping They Don't Repent

Probably the biggest reason people choose not to explore the process of forgiveness is something we'll call The Jonah Syndrome. As you may recall from the story of Jonah, the reluctant prophet ran in the opposite direction when he was told by God to offer repentance to one of the fiercest super-powers the world has ever known - The Assyrians, specifically the inhabitants of the capital of the empire, Ninevah.

Sometimes, when a city was about to come under siege by the Assyrians, the citizens would simply kill each other rather than face the vicious, blood-curdling torture of the these particular warriors. These mercenaries implemented methods of anguish that would maximize and draw out a person's pain experience without actually killing him. When the Assyrians captured their enemies, especially rival kings, they gouged their eyes out, and/or cut off hands and feet, and/or staked them to the desert floor and skinned them alive - or, barring all this, slowly boiled or roasted them over a period of days. No wonder Jonah was reluctant to pay these folks a visit. . . .

The maintenance energy for withholding forgiveness is enormous. We might discreetly keep our ears open for bad news about these people so we can do a little fist-pumping as we rejoice in their misfortune. But, if we're in this state, hearing about their good fortune only plunges us into greater despair. We might spend an inordinate amount of time sitting around and ruminating on what a certain person did to us. The evil act might find it's way into conversations that have nothing to do with the person we're talking to or the topic at hand. And, at the very worst, the harm we want to do to the offender, and can't, gets projected on to those who really do care about us. So our other relationships suffer because we can't find the ability to forgive. . . .

It's not healthy to talk about forgiveness as merely "the emotional release" of the debt that the people have created in our lives. Instead, it is better to

describe forgiveness as the "transfer" of that debt from our account to God's. Forgiveness includes the acknowledgment that we are powerless to collect on certain debts, and that we must trust God to balance the books. This is what God means when He promises "I will repay." (Deut. 32:35; Jer. 16:18; 25:14; 51:24; Ezek. 7:9; Joel 2:25; Rom. 12:19; Heb. 10:30; Rev. 2:23 - Note, that in some of these passages, God's repayment plan also includes compensation to the victims.)

OUR WILLINGNESS TO FORGIVE SOMEONE does not need to be based on the prospect that our forgiveness will finally end the matter in God's eyes. Perhaps our involvement with that person will come to an end. Perhaps we will choose to stay in a relationship with that person, for a variety of legitimate reasons. But in these case, we understand that our level of vulnerability with the person may never be deeper than "maintenance mode." But just because we have forgiven someone, doesn't mean that God is finished with that person. That is what Paul means when he implores offended believers - those who have taken all the appropriate steps concerning human justice - to step aside and "leave room for the wrath of God." (Rom. 12:19). . . .

Because God is just, and we reflect this part of His essence in our own limited reflection of his emotional essence, we are left with a sense of unsettledness and discomfort whenever we witness or experience injustice. There is something inside of us that says "this needs to be made right - these actions cannot go unanswered - the person who has committed these evil deeds needs to be held accountable."

And God is saying the same thing.

Excerpted from The Prayer of Revenge: Forgiveness in the Face of Injustice by Douglas C. Schmidt, published by Cook Communications Ministries. For more information, visit [www.dougschmidt.com](http://www.dougschmidt.com)

Missouri Women Help Build...from page 1

Sister Fela opened the envelope, slipped the stack of bills out into her hand and started counting. She counted the ones, the tens, brightened when she saw the \$50 bills, and then when she saw that there were more \$100 bills, and more than one, she went over to the sofa and sat down and started over. They were all laughing and praising the Lord as she carefully counted out \$742. Looking from one daughter to another they quickly multiplied that out into pesos. She held the bills up in her hand and said, "With this we can have tile floors, and windows." The young women agreed, and one added, "And more!"

Sister Fela asked Ruth to please express their deepest gratitude to the women in Missouri who participated in all kinds of creative projects to raise the money. She said, "Sister Ruth always surprises us." "It is not me," Ruth answered, "it is all of the wonderful ladies who love Mexico and want to help."

"You can be sure that those ladies in the Mahanim church are praying for the ladies of Missouri" Ruth said. "I am thrilled to be able to be the mail carrier of such sweet blessings."

# Help Send the Light



# Support the Show-Me Plan





Bud and Ruth Bivens

**G**reetings from Monett where our hearts are warm and our toes are cold. It is six degrees as I write and we are having flash backs of the tropics. The Lord has blessed us richly in the last couple of months, and we are looking forward to a wonderful new year.

We haven't sent an update for a while. November and December were busy months, apart from the usual holiday activities. Our Indian Creek Mission Conference the first week of November proved to be a wonderful blessing. Missionary builder Mark and Brenda Cole stayed in our home and that was a special treat for us. A group from the Airport Church in Tulsa came for a working visit. We had visitors from Park Hill MO, Brother Travis Harrison and Brother Faron Thebeau, spoke to our people in Spanish and blessed and encouraged us all. We have lost some of our congregation to jobs in California. Some who had gone have returned. There are new doors opening every day as we continue to meet Hispanics who need help. As we reach out to them in friendship, with a helping hand, we show them the love of Christ and one by one we are seeing some come to the Lord. There are a few items I would like to bring you up to date on.

1. We just returned from the Mexi-

## Bivens Update

can National Association of Free Will Baptists annual convention Dec. 19-21. We had a great meeting, with over 700 people total in attendance and 515 present for the Sunday morning service. Brother David Joslin from Arkansas preached 3 great messages with Ramon Zuniga translating for him. There was a wonderful spirit and business was transacted smoothly. We enjoyed seeing a lot of old friends.

2. We had a watch service on New Years Eve and had a good time singing and praising the Lord and then a New Year's prayer at midnight. Our people seemed to really enjoy it.

3. We are working on helping brother Pacheco (president of the Mex. Nat. Assoc.) buy a 1994 or older Toyota or Nissan pickup for his film ministry. He has gone out and shown the Jesus film and others and started some new missions. But his old pickup is a gas guzzler and nearly worn out. He needs another, more economical vehicle. Because of government regulations in Mexico an older model is necessary. Please pray about this need.

4. Sister Pacheco and their ladies have been working on many projects trying to raise money to finish the kitchen in their new church. Ruth distributed hand-made items they had made at the Missouri State WAC Retreat with the agreement that they would be used for some kind of fund raiser. Several groups really took the challenge. All together they raised \$742.00 which Ruth took to sister Pacheco when we went down last month.

5. Mark Cole, the missionary to

Mexico from Okla., took a group of about 45 down after Christmas with 1200 gift-wrapped shoeboxes full of toys and toilet items. They first visited the church on the canal road in Reynosa and handed out gifts to the children. They left several hundred boxes for Brother Fermin to take to the churches in Altamira. Then they finished up at the orphanage in Piedras Negras where our son John and his wife Paulina work, in Coahuila, Mexico. After visiting all the other orphanages that John helps there in Piedras Negras, they took the remaining packages to a row of poor houses along the railroad tracks near John's place. People have 'squatted' on government land on the RR right-of-way and live in cardboard and wood shacks without water, lights or service of any kind. Here the group gave out the rest of the gifts and over 1000 lbs of rice and beans. Brother Mark hopes to make this trip again in July. We would like to go with them if we can work it out. If you know anyone who is interested in such a trip, let us know.

6. Sunday, January 18 we plan to celebrate our one-year anniversary in Monett!! We have planned special preaching, special music and dinner on the ground. We invite each of you to come and be with us and enjoy our Spanish service (bi-lingual if enough of you come), special music and a Mexican-Guatemalan dinner. We will start at 11:00 am, eat around 1:00 and have a short service afterward. Come on up or down as the case may be.

Our attendance has been down over this holiday season. Please keep us in your prayers as we get back to our regular schedule. People are not as faithful in attendance during the bitter cold weather, especially the families with tiny babies. We appreciate every one of you, and rely on your prayer. Bud and Ruth Bivens

## Prayer

Prayer...opens the locked gate into the rose garden.

Prayer...helps us grow to our proper height, neither inferior nor superior.

Prayer...cleans the mirror in which I look at myself, so that I can see myself as others see me, or even (God help me) as God sees me.

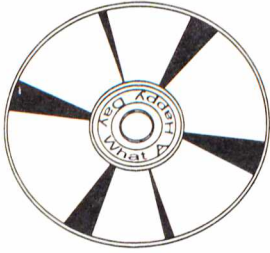
Prayer...removes the spectacles of pride and fear through which I normally look at everyone else, and helps me see them as God sees them.

Prayer...opens up the old wound which hasn't healed right, eases in the ointment, and helps it to heal at last.

Prayer...takes the tangled ball of wool and gently untangles it, without snapping it or cutting it.

Prayer...is the most human thing we can do-and the most divine.





## New CD Honors Roy Thomas

GOLDSBORO, NC—Free Will Baptist song writer, author and retired pastor Reverend George C. Lee produced a CD in 2003 titled *What A Happy Day*. One of the 15 original songs by Reverend Lee on that CD is a tribute to the late Home Missions director, Dr. Roy Thomas, who died March 23, 2003, at age 72.

When Reverend Lee learned of Dr. Thomas' last words before his death, he wrote a song with that title, *I'm Not Afraid to Cross the River (For He Owns the Land On Both Sides)*. The song

is also included in Lee's songbook, *I Love Shape Note Singing*.

Copies of the *What A Happy Day* CD may be ordered from George Lee for \$11. Send orders to:

Reverend George C. Lee  
303 Veronica Avenue  
Goldsboro, NC 27534  
Email: GLEE63@nc.rr.com  
Phone: 919-734-7670

## Worship Service Averages Sept 2003 - Dec 2003

Churches:	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Belton	43	41	33	37
Buffalo 1 <sup>st</sup>	135	141		116
Cabool	39	37	49	44
Calvary Chapel	269	272	290	270
Calvary Fellowship	351		371	
Central	59	59	67	66
Clifton	59	45	54	54
Copper Mines	55	61	53	
Columbia	59	65	65	
De Soto	204	210	215	200
Grant Avenue		92		
Green Hills-Kirksville	14	16		
Green Hills- Lebanon	60	49	53	53
Hannibal	98	80	90	80
Harmony	89	72	69	58
Hartville	186		188	183
Hopewell	32	32	30	
Houston	59	63	57	52
Hurryville	92	100	102	96
Joplin 1 <sup>st</sup>	120	95		
Kingsway	37		30	
Lebanon 1 <sup>st</sup>	139	148	143	137
Mill Creek	85	80	88	80
Mt. Pisgah	68	69		
Myrtle	25	62	24	24
New Life - Licking	66	64	68	
Oak Hill- Union	62	60	53	60
O'Fallon 1 <sup>st</sup>	157	131		134
Ozark 1 <sup>st</sup>		186	124	
Palabras De Vida Eterna	34			
Pleasant Hill		26	33	36
Richwoods	62	51	52	
Rock Chapel	53	44	46	50
Rolla 1 <sup>st</sup>	36	37	31	37
Springfield 1 <sup>st</sup>	157	162	165	152
Thayer	137	151		158
Trinity		71	69	69
Union Grove	128	111	117	119
Victory- KC	91	92	84	86

This is only a partial listing. There are 184 FWB Churches in Missouri. Each church is encouraged to send in their worship averages.

## Financial Report December 2003

### Cooperative Disbursements

December 2003	\$53,914.31
18.50% State Home Missions	\$9,974.15
17.00% Executive Office	9,165.43
3.00% General Fund	1,617.43
.50% Show-Me Plan	269.56
8.50% Youth Camp Board	4,582.72
3.00% Y.C. Restricted Funds	1,617.43
2.00% Youth Ministries Board	1,078.29
2.00% Christian Ed. Bd	1,078.29
2.00% Senior Adult MinBd	1,078.29
9.00% MO Retirement Prog	4,852.29
31.50%	16,983.00
National Ministries, Hillsdale and	
California Christian College	
Foreign Missions Board	
National Home Missions Board	
Same Allocation	
Free Will Baptist Bible College	
Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	
Executive Department	
Layman's Board	
Radio & TV Commission	
Theological Commission	
Historical Commission	
Board of Retirement & Insurance	
1.00% California Christian College	
3.00% Show-Me Plan	1,617.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$53,914.31</b>

### Co-op

Amity	\$101.60
Aulsbury Chapel	\$185.52
Bailey	\$240.00
Bailey Chapel	\$243.00
Belton	\$291.22
Berean	\$80.00
Bethel- El Dorado Springs	\$492.27
Bethel- Northview	\$376.00
Black Oak	\$457.58
Byrd	\$124.00
Calvary Chapel	\$1,543.64
Cape Girardeau	\$605.56
Carthage	\$240.00
Central	\$1,076.15
Christ Chapel	\$453.50
Clifton	\$59.00
Columbia	\$588.00
Copper Mines	\$425.07
Cornerstone	\$502.69
Cross Roads- Lebanon	\$459.94
Crossroads- Wentzville	\$695.00
Cuba	\$572.00
DeSoto 1st	\$1,400.00
Faith & Hope- Willow Springs	\$135.32
Farmington 1st	\$2,747.44
Fellowship	\$1,500.00
Fordland	\$652.76
Fourth	\$497.30

Fredericktown 1st	\$273.00
Freeman Chapel	\$520.40
Gospel Light	\$100.00
Grace	\$1,715.66
Grant Avenue	\$1,078.39
Green Hills- Kirksville	\$95.90
Green Hills- Lebanon	\$426.49
Hannibal	\$957.00
Hannon	\$833.00
Harmony	\$429.05
Hartville	\$1,492.00
Harvest-Raymore	\$268.00
Hopewell	\$299.00
Houston 1st	\$360.59
Hurryville	\$741.45
Jackson	\$174.45
Jordan- Jefferson City	\$135.00
Kings Way	\$195.57
Koshkonong	\$114.00
Lead Hill	\$334.90
Leadington	\$423.32
Lebanon 1st	\$1,775.12
Liberty- Nevada	\$153.00
Lone Star	\$49.50
Macedonia- Niangua	\$214.60
Macedonia- Purdy	\$50.00
Merls Chapel	\$134.00
Mill Creek	\$717.25
Mine LaMotte	\$79.50
Monett 1st	\$889.39
Mt. Pisgah	\$494.00
Mt. Zion- Gower	\$52.00
Myrtle	\$291.85
Neosho 1st	\$95.00
New Hope	\$379.76
New Life- Licking	\$376.61
Niangua	\$273.87
North Five	\$14.16
Number One	\$232.69
O' Fallon 1st	\$1,487.93
Oak Grove- Mtn. Grove	\$196.35
Oak Hill	\$581.00
Olivet	\$510.00
Overland	\$95.00
Ozark 1st	\$2,017.88
Palabras De Vida Eterna	\$100.00
Parkview	\$505.70
Pleasant Hill	\$225.25
Pleasant Ridge- Urbana	\$89.00
Potosi 1st	\$151.06
Rock Chapel	\$425.00
Rolla 1st	\$407.00
Royal Oak	\$55.00
Seymour	\$589.00
Smyrna	\$113.00
Springfield 1st	\$1,720.64
St. Francois Assn.	\$39.40
Thayer	\$1,334.00
Union	\$60.00
Union Grove	\$506.00
Union Light	\$180.00



United .....	\$1,714.96
Unity .....	\$400.00
Verdella .....	\$805.34
Victory- Alton .....	\$835.80
Victory- KC .....	\$825.85
Victory- KC .....	\$1,903.64
Waynesville 1st .....	\$458.09
West Plains 1st .....	\$851.00
Willow Springs- Mtn. Grove .....	\$310.77
Wolf Creek .....	\$436.61
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$53,914.30</b>

#### Show-Me Plan

Belton .....	\$165.00
Berean .....	\$30.00
Berry, R. ....	\$15.00
Bethel- El Dorado Springs .....	\$492.28
Bethel- Festus .....	\$45.00
Black Oak .....	\$60.00
Brown, J. ....	\$15.00
Burns, J. ....	\$60.00
Buxton, G. ....	\$30.00
Calvary Chapel .....	\$105.00
Central .....	\$225.00
Chrisman, M. ....	\$30.00
Columbia .....	\$20.00
Copper Mines .....	\$150.00
Copper Mines- Teens & Jr. ....	\$30.00
Copper Mines- Young Adult .....	\$15.00
Cornerstone .....	\$299.00
Cross Roads- Lebanon .....	\$90.00
Cuba .....	\$142.00
Darnell, W. ....	\$15.00
DeSoto 1st .....	\$552.50
DeSoto Auditorium Class .....	\$30.00
Faith .....	\$28.00
Faith & Hope- Willow Springs .....	\$120.00
Farmington 1st .....	\$710.00
Fordland .....	\$250.00
Fourth .....	\$45.00
Fredericktown 1st .....	\$60.00
Freeman Chapel .....	\$540.00
Garrett, R. ....	\$15.00
Gospel Light .....	\$1,000.00
Grace .....	\$360.40
Grant Avenue .....	\$325.00
Greater Springfield Association .....	\$166.00
Green Hills- Lebanon .....	\$30.00
Greenfield .....	\$180.00
Hannibal WAC .....	\$15.00
Hannon .....	\$993.00
Happy Hill .....	\$60.00
Happy Hill .....	\$60.00
Harmony .....	\$46.34
Hartville .....	\$240.00
Harvest- Raymore .....	\$70.00
Houston 1st .....	\$318.50
Jackson .....	\$40.00
Jones Chapel .....	\$300.00
Jordan- Jefferson City .....	\$15.00
Lebanon 1st .....	\$150.00
Macedonia- Purdy .....	\$1,000.00
Maggart, D. ....	\$45.00
Mailloy, A. ....	\$15.00
Merls Chapel .....	\$20.00
Mill Creek .....	\$140.00
Mill Creek CWF .....	\$15.00
Mill Creek- Young Adult Class .....	\$15.00
Mine La Motte .....	\$75.00
Mission Assn Walk-a-thon .....	\$2,335.00
MO Cooperative Plan .....	\$1,617.43
MO WAC .....	\$281.17
Monett 1st .....	\$60.00
Mountain Grove 1st .....	\$2,526.41
Mouser, J. ....	\$60.00
Mt. Pisgah .....	\$75.00
Mtn. Grove-WAC .....	\$250.00
Myrtle .....	\$75.00
Neosho 1st .....	\$135.00
New Beginning .....	\$347.40
New Home- Hartville .....	\$210.00
New Hope .....	\$150.00
New Life- Licking .....	\$115.75
New Life- Monett .....	\$300.00
New Testament .....	\$15.00
Niangua .....	\$30.00

Noel, D. ....	\$15.00
Number One .....	\$60.00
O' Fallon 1st .....	\$313.00
Oak Grove- Houston .....	\$30.00
Oak Hill .....	\$20.00
Olivet .....	\$30.00
Palbras de Vida Eterna .....	\$15.00
Parker, G. ....	\$15.00
Parkview .....	\$295.30
Pinkerton, J. ....	\$45.00
Pleasant Hill .....	\$45.00
Pleasant Ridge- Urbana .....	\$50.00
Purdy 1st .....	\$1,380.00
Purdy 1st- Walk for Missions .....	\$871.67
Richwoods .....	\$52.50
Rock Chapel .....	\$210.00
Rogers, B. ....	\$15.00
Rolla 1st .....	\$30.00
Royal Oak .....	\$120.00
Ruble, N. ....	\$45.00
Springfield 1st .....	\$530.00
Thayer .....	\$360.00
Union Light .....	\$150.00
United .....	\$346.63
Unity .....	\$75.00
Verdella .....	\$1,000.54
Victory- Alton .....	\$45.00
Victory- KC .....	\$1,140.00
Victory- KC .....	\$135.00
Walker, H. ....	\$10.00
Walnut Grove .....	\$15.00
Waynesville 1st .....	\$390.85
White, R. ....	\$30.00
Willow Springs 1st .....	\$150.00
Willow Springs- Mtn. Grove .....	\$70.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$26,766.67</b>

#### Foreign Missions

Belton .....	\$70.00
Bridges, E. ....	\$10.00
Central .....	\$55.00
Chapman, A. ....	\$20.00
Cuba .....	\$28.40
Farmington 1st .....	\$10.00
Fordland .....	\$5.00
Grant Avenue .....	\$30.00
Hartville .....	\$35.00
Houston 1st .....	\$30.00
Lewis, D. ....	\$10.00
Matthews, A. ....	\$20.00
Minor, K. ....	\$10.00
Mountain Grove 1st .....	\$120.00
New Testament .....	\$35.00
O' Fallon 1st .....	\$20.00
Pleasant Ridge Auxiliary .....	\$25.00
Rock Chapel .....	\$22.00
Rolla 1st .....	\$286.50
Thayer .....	\$10.00
Verdella .....	\$171.06
Victory- KC .....	\$10.00
Victory- KC .....	\$20.00
Waynesville 1st .....	\$195.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$1,247.96</b>

#### Nat'l Home Missions

Belton .....	\$25.00
Carthage .....	\$5.00
Carthage .....	\$111.37
Central .....	\$50.00
Columbia .....	\$20.00
Cuba .....	\$85.20
DeSoto 1st .....	\$190.00
Farmington 1st .....	\$565.00
Fordland .....	\$30.00
Fordland .....	\$500.00
Fourth .....	\$50.00
Fredericktown 1st .....	\$10.00
Gospel Light .....	\$240.00
Grace .....	\$39.00
Grace .....	\$500.00
Grant Avenue .....	\$10.00
Greater Springfield Association .....	\$166.00
Hannon .....	\$882.00
Hartville .....	\$1,684.00

Houston 1st .....	\$35.00
Jackson .....	\$38.50
Jordan- Jefferson City .....	\$20.00
King, B. ....	\$5.00
Macedonia- Purdy .....	\$500.00
Monett 1st .....	\$5.00
Mountain Grove 1st .....	\$60.00
Mt. Pisgah .....	\$25.00
Myrtle .....	\$100.00
Neosho 1st .....	\$50.00
New Home- Hartville .....	\$10.00
New Life- Monett .....	\$100.00
New Testament .....	\$75.00
Purdy 1st .....	\$87.50
Oak Hill .....	\$73.00
Rader, J. ....	\$20.00
Richwoods 1st .....	\$46.00
Rock Chapel .....	\$99.30
Ruble, N. ....	\$10.00
Thayer .....	\$210.00
Thebeau, B. ....	\$5.00
Union Light .....	\$96.00
United .....	\$150.00
Unity .....	\$50.00
Verdella .....	\$10.00
Victory- KC .....	\$40.00
Victory-KC .....	\$400.00
West Plains 1st .....	\$20.00
Wolf Creek .....	\$75.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$7,577.87</b>

#### State Home Missions

Bethel- Festus .....	\$15.00
DeSoto 1st .....	\$90.00
Fellowship .....	\$1,261.97
Fordland .....	\$10.00
Gospel Light .....	\$80.00
Grace .....	\$70.00
Greater Springfield Assoc. ....	\$166.00
Lebanon Bible & Bookstore .....	\$330.00
Macedonia- Purdy .....	\$100.00
Myrtle .....	\$98.00
Neosho 1st .....	\$25.00
New Testament .....	\$50.00
Niangua .....	\$79.25
O' Fallon 1st .....	\$82.50
Ozark 1st .....	\$10.00
Pleasant Ridge- Urbana .....	\$20.00
Rolla 1st .....	\$286.50
Skiles, D. ....	\$200.00
Thayer .....	\$110.00
Union .....	\$45.00
United .....	\$25.00
Unity .....	\$75.00
Waynesville 1st .....	\$50.00
White, R. ....	\$10.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$3,289.22</b>

#### Youth Camp

De Soto 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	55.00
Lebanon Bible & Bookstore .....	180.00
New Home- Hartville .....	10.00
Niangua .....	20.00
Stephens, T. ....	10.00
Union .....	30.00
Mt. Pisgah .....	15.00
Belton .....	10.00
Rolla 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	20.00
Hannon .....	50.00
Hannon(for Laundry room) .....	251.40
Cornerstone .....	25.00
Thayer .....	55.00
Willow Springs- Mt. Grove .....	10.00
Mountain Grove 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	10.00
Ozark 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	10.00
Verdella .....	10.00
West Plains 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	25.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$796.40</b>

#### Camp Development Fund

Myrtle .....	106.00
Rock Chapel .....	340.00
Houston 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	200.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$646.00</b>

#### C. E. Board

Lebanon Bible & Book Store ...	\$130.00
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#### Senior Adult Ministries

Lebanon Bible & Book Store ...	\$130.00
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#### Youth Ministries Board

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

De Soto 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	40.00
Ruble, N. ....	15.00
Oak Hill .....	10.00
Farmington 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	150.00
Thayer .....	50.00
Verdella .....	161.06
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$426.06</b>

#### Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College

Grant Avenue .....	30.00
Oak Hill .....	10.00
Hannon .....	100.00
Farmington 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	150.00
Monett 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	100.00
Thayer .....	50.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$440.00</b>

#### Trula Cronk Home for Children

De Soto 1 <sup>st</sup> .....	55.00
New Home- Hartville .....	30.00
Nosser, M. ....	25.00
Hannon .....	100.00
Belton .....	35.00
New Hope .....	30.00
Unity .....	20.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$295.00</b>

#### Women Nationally Active for Christ

Ruble, J. ....	\$10.00
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#### Rev. John McClure

Carthage .....	15.00
Grace .....	30.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$45.00</b>

#### Vergel Maness

Grace .....	100.00
Gospel Light .....	80.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$180.00</b>

#### Morgan Wood

Belton .....	\$25.00
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#### Brian Brinkhoff

New Testament .....	10.00
Unity .....	12.50
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$22.50</b>

#### Victor Torrez

United Youth Group .....	\$200.00
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#### Berea Ministries

Hartville .....	\$150.00
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#### Liberty Free Will Baptist Church

Unity .....	\$12.50
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#### Scott Lundeen

Verdella .....	\$402.47
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#### George Lemelin

Jackson .....	\$5.00
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#### Richard Standley

Chapman, A. ....	\$10.00
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# Quiet Hearts

By Tim Hansel

*"The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever" (Isaiah 32:17).*

**A**s long as we are busy, busy, busy, we never have to face what is really important in life. We never have to find out who God really is. We simply follow the God we have underlined in the Bible-not the God who is, but the God we want Him to be. All we have to do is carefully ignore anything in Scripture that doesn't meet our specifications of God-and never spend time alone with Him. We can be busy at work, busy at home, and busy at church. All work equally well at helping us ignore God as He really is.

Solitude is a flower born of simplicity. It needs to be tended slowly and patiently. A quiet heart never comes easy, never in a hurry.

Excerpt from *Keep On Dancin'*: Daily Readings to Celebrate Life by Tim Hansel, Chariot Victor Publishing. Used by permission.



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OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**  
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