



Volume 76, Number 5
May, 2005

2005 Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists

June 6-8

United
Free Will Baptist
Church

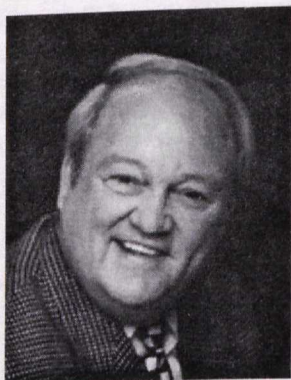
West Plains, MO



Rev. Jerry Norris



Rev. Richard Robinson



Dr. Richard Adams



Rev. Ron Owens



Rev. Raymond Michael

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Churches Seeking Pastor

Trinity Church
Cabool, MO

Contact:
Don Wells:
417-962-4010
Loyd Morris
417-962-3574

Byrd Church
Myrtle, MO
Contact:
Joe Garrison
417-938-4628

Faith Church
Lemay, MO.
Contact:
Madge Hasty
314-638-3481

Overland Church
Overland, MO

Contact:
Jack Phillips
314-426-0540
Rev. Coffman
314-429-4374

First Church
Houston, MO

Contact:
Bruce Moore
417-967-4164

Mine La Motte Church
Fredericktown, MO

Contact:
Robert Warner
573-783-5358

New Prospect
Long Lane, MO

Contact:
Joan Roberts
417-345-8982

the GEM

All items for publication must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 5th of the month preceding the issue month.

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From the Editor

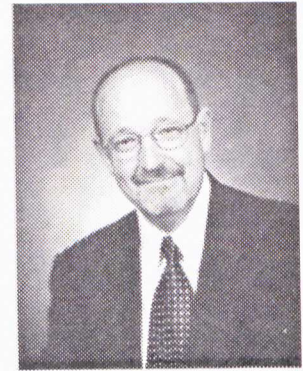
It's State Meeting time again! This year we will celebrate 92 years of Free Will Baptist work in Missouri. We are going to enjoy the hospitality of Bro. Glenn Murray and his folks at the United Free Will Baptist Church in West Plains. They hosted our meeting several years ago and did an excellent job and we know that this year will be no exception. Their people are friendly and their facility is very accommodating for all our meetings and sessions. We appreciate their servants heart.

Our theme this year is taken from Isaiah 6:1, "Our Magnificent God" We will begin developing that theme on Monday evening in our opening service. Bro. Jim Williams, our State Moderator and pastor of the Carthage Free Will Baptist Church will preside and introduce past moderator, Richard Robinson as the speaker. Bro. Richard is the pastor of the Thayer Free Will Baptist Church and will take as his topic, "The Majesty of God."

Tuesday Morning will find several things happening. At 9:00 the Christian Education Board will present Ron Owens in a seminar to be followed by the worship service at 11:00. At the same time the Missouri Women Active for Christ will be holding their annual meeting. Their theme is "Pursue God's Word- Prescription for Successful Living." Their theme verse is James 1:22. Carol Pinkerton will bring their morning devotion with Jerry Pinkerton speaking at the 11:00 service. Their meeting will continue into the afternoon and feature National WAC Director Marjorie Workman installing the new State Officers.

Tuesday evening Bro. Russ Neill, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church of Purdy will preside. Bro. Jerry Norris is the evening speaker. Bro. Jerry is the chairman of the Christian Education Board and pastor of Calvary Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church in Fenton. His topic will be ""The Mighty Works of God."

Wednesday morning our business session will be preceded by our morning devotion. Bro. Joe Wilson, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church of Lebanon will prepare our minds for the business to follow. The 11:00 message will be presented by Bro. Raymond Michael pastor of the Twin Oak Free Will Baptist Church of Fredericktown. He will be introduced by Bro. Bob



Thebeau, pastor of DeSoto First Free Will Baptist Church.

Our Wednesday evening service will be feature Bro. Ronnie Blanks, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of West Plains presiding and Bro. Richard Adams, Director of Development for our National Home Missions Department. Bro. Richard will speak to us about "The Man of God."

One of the reasons it is always such a joy to attend the Missouri State Asssociational Meeting is the great spirit of cooperation and harmony that rules. I have heard visitors from others states and national personel comment on what a joy it is to attend a meeting where people seem to love each other! It is comforting to know that those who are gathered are more concerned about the kingdom work of Christ in our state and around the world than they are some personal agenda they brought with them to the meeting. Thank God for the churches, people and pastors of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists!

It is always a joy to report what our churches are doing around the state.....if we knew! I have been asking all the churches I visit to send in their news and some are beginning to do so. But the flow is only a trickle at this point. We want our state magazine to be informative and encouraging. The best way to do that is to read what God is doing in Missouri. The best way for us to know is for you to let the Gem office know what your church is doing and how God is blessing. Your articles and photos may be mailed to The Gem, PO Box 991, Lebanon, MO 65536 or e-mailed to gwfrf@webound.com. I could make lots of good things up about our churches, but they would not be as good as what is really happening!

See page 7 for Motel Information



Missouri Show-Me Missions News

The Bunches in Panama

Friends

Here is a bit of news from Panama.

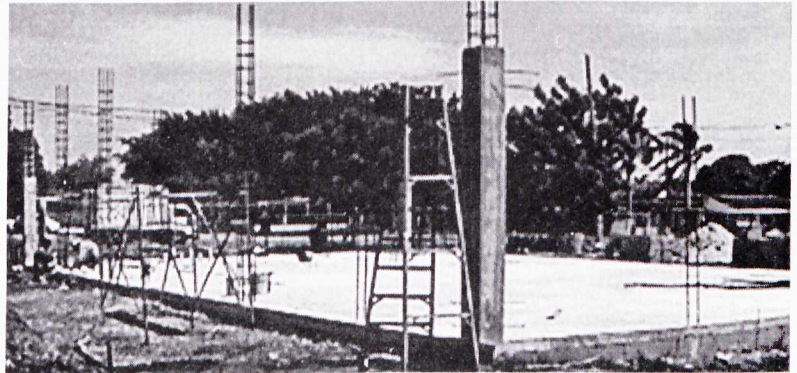
We are working to start a new church in Chitre, Panama. The ministry is developed around small groups with approximately 40 people attending the 3 existing groups. There are several candidates for baptism later in April. God is bringing new people in and some are being saved. This April we will celebrate a family life seminar and also beginning a new semester of Bible Institute classes. In May, Brenda and I will attend the graduation of our daughter Alicia from college and our son Jonathan from Law School. Stan will also officiate the wedding of a friend in Missouri.

Our annual convention in Panama was well attended in January and was especially blessed with the attendance of a building team from the Hannon FWB Church in Mo.

In February, Brenda and I traveled to Brazil and Uruguay as part of my responsibilities as Latin American Regional Director. God is moving in those countries and our churches are growing.

Missouri Pastor Doug Earls visited in February and was a tremendous help through his teaching to leaders here in the Azuero Peninsula.

April 1-3 were the dates for one of our annual Panama Pastor/Leader retreats. This year there were over 25 men present. We thank God for this wonderful time of fellowship, teaching and prayer together.



In December construction began on a church building and is slowly coming together. The building will seat 150 people and should be ready for a roof by June. We certainly desire your prayers and support. Donations to the building project may be sent to the FWBIM office and designated to the Panama Mentoring Vision Fund. If your church would like a project to adopt we might suggest one of the following:

1. 150 Seating chairs for the sanctuary \$30 each
2. 10 Tables for the classrooms.... \$100 each
3. Sound equipment.... \$1000
4. Roof material..... 110 sheets @ \$12/sheet
5. Bathroom fixtures... 4 stools @ \$120 each
6. Windows.... 12 @ \$90 each.
7. Metal Trusses...6 @ \$425 each.

God bless you and thank you for your prayers,

Stanley & Brenda Bunch



The Turnboughs in Spain

Dear Friends,

I remember 10-15 years ago walking into the bank in Madrid where our mission did business and the people there hardly recognized me. We had been doing business there for years! This morning I took a briefcase full of documents to two local bank directors in Villalba to officially begin the process of asking them to finance the Nehemiah Project. In both banks, I was received warmly. I know one of them because of my work with the church in her bank, and the other one because of my work with the mission in his bank. Both directors not only called me by my first name, they both were highly complimentary. I was taken by surprise. I praise the Lord for that change! They both assured me that they personally are "on our side" and that they will "fight" for us, because "they have watched us over the years and believe that we are good people and that we are doing a good work." In two different banks, two different (non-Christian) bank directors said practically the same thing! Sometimes I wonder if anyone here is watching or paying attention. The directors of these two banks answered that question for me today. What you say and do on a regular basis, does make a difference. It may take years, but people do notice. Between my interviews with these two directors, I spent almost the entire morning in these two banks. I was encouraged simply for having had the opportunity to talk to these two people, and even more because they were both so positive about us as Evangelical Christians. Obviously it is not about me or any other missionary, it is about God's glory and His Kingdom. I consider this experience a praise item for the Cause of Christ here in this place.

I ask you to pray for these two bank directors and for the people "higher up" in their risk departments. We know that a North American missionary asking for a loan for an Evangelical Church in this context is not only different, according to my two director friends, it is the first time they have ever done it. Regardless of the outcome, give thanks that the Nehemiah Project affords us the opportunity to establish deeper relationships with these people, albeit professional. In the long process of

studying our case and conversing, pray that the Holy Spirit will use me and others in the Villalba Church to awaken spiritual interest in these people's hearts, as well as in the hearts of others in the community.

Even though we obviously would like to have one, I truly do not ask that you pray that God works to grant us a loan. If I have learned anything in the long process of this project, I know that I do not want anything that God does not want for us. He knows the future, He knows our hearts, He knows the people involved, and He knows what is best. I ask that you pray that God works to do His will in this matter, according to His knowledge, for His glory.

We will be back in touch with you when we have more news about the Nehemiah Project.

Please pray for the Villalba Church Council. We meet tonight to discuss important matters for the church and for the Nehemiah Project.

Please pray for Susan and I as we are away from home to participate in a Leadership Skills Course for the next two weeks (April 6-20). Two of our missionaries from France are also participating. We are investigating this course for possible use in our own future leadership development and training in France and Spain.

Here for HIS glory,
Jeff & Susan Turnbough
jturnbough@fwbgo.com



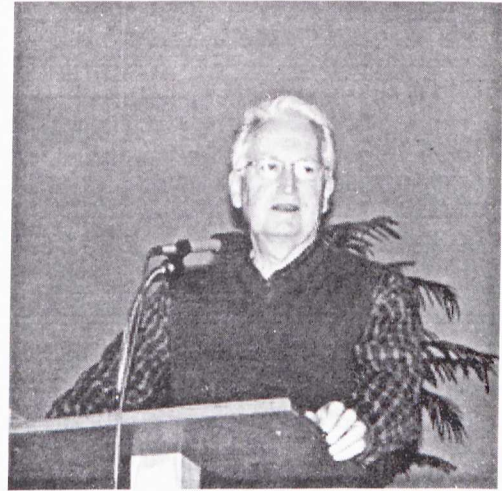
Pray for:
Carmen — bank director
José Miguel — bank director
Carlos — architect
Jhon, Yolanda, & Anita — Villalba Church Council

More Missions News on Page 12

Church seeking Youth Pastor:
Victory Church
Alton, MO
Contact: Jason Roberts
417-257-7322

Minister's Retreat 2005

What a tremendous time we had at the 2005 Ministers Retreat at Stonecroft this past March 14-16. There were 80 who registered to stay with several more attending various sessions. As usual the accommodations were great, the food wonderful and the fellowship was fulfilling! But the services were fantastic! Bro. Ron Owens and his wife Patricia led us in several moving worship experiences focusing on the majesty and wonder of God. Of course, who couldn't worship with that as the subject! Here at a few photos of the time we had together.



Speaker Ron Owens

Don't miss Bro Owens speaking on Tuesday at our State Meeting June 6-8.



Ed Vincent led our singing



Gene Howell accompanied



After-service fellowship

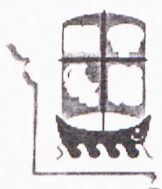


Mealtime was always a highlight



Jerry Norris likes cookies!

Our Ministers Retreat will be March 13-15 next year, mark your calendar now and be with us!



Missouri State Home Missions

First Church, Willow Springs, MO Reopens

Dr. Ralph Hunter approved by Mission Board

After several months struggling without a pastor, the folks at First Free Will Baptist Church of Willow Springs Mo, voted to turn their property over to the Missouri State Home Mission Board. Their hope was that the church could continue with the support of Missouri Home Missions. The Board met with Dr. Ralph Hunter and approved



a proposal that Dr. Hunter presented for the rebirth of the church. Dr. Hunter and his wife are a part of the United Free Will Baptist Church of West Plains and Dr. Hunter serves as State Coordinator for Missouri Bible Institute. They recently held their first service. Dr. Hunter said

"I'm praising the Lord for the wonderful reopening service March 13th. Seventy five (75) people thought enough about us to attend the service eleven or twelve being local people. The Lord's presence was and continues to be with us. One would have to be stone dead not to have felt His presence in the service.

The Gospel Chords, a more or less Bluegrass group from United FWB Church provided the special music. I'm not exaggerating when I say the Lord seemed to enhance their playing and singing. Ms Erin Kimbrough of United sang "He's Alive" that provided a huge blessing for all of the folks. Also Rev.

Skiles sang a special. Now, that feller can sing and play a guitar.

After the service the ladies of United prepared a sumptuous dinner. Everyone departed full of food both natural and spiritual."

Serving along with Dr and Mrs. Hunter are Robert and Melissa Luck working with the youth.

"The Lord has called us to serve Him as Youth Minister at the First Freewill Baptist Church in Willow Springs, MO. When Bro. Ralph Hunter first mentioned to me the possibility that he would re-open the church, he also mentioned the need for someone to work with the young people of the church that the Lord would provide. We intend to serve the Lord in

any way that we can. It is good how the Lord answers the prayers of the willing. We are ready and excited about doing what we can for God and a growing church family."



State Meeting Motel Information

Please mention when you call for reservations that you are with Missouri Free Will Baptists



1301 Preacher Roe Blvd.
417-256-8191
\$61.00+ tax
1-4 people
Restaurant on site



1210 Porter Wagoner Blvd.
417-256-8088
\$39.20+ tax
1-2 Adults
\$5.00 each add. person
King, Queen or 2 Dbl.
Cont. Breakfast



220 Jan Howard Expressway
417-257-2711
800-391-3977
1 King-\$55.00+ tax
2 Queen- 67.00+ tax
Cont. Breakfast



1605 Imperial Drive
417-257-3000
866-440-0644
\$62.50+ tax
1-5 people
King or 2 Queen
Cont. Breakfast

Indian Creek Association Builds Church in Mexico

....with a little help from some friends

Three groups of Missouri builders and helpers made a seven hour trek south of the Mexican border in February to build a church for a small mission in the Mano Con Mano (Hand In Hand) community on the outskirts of Tampico.

The pastors of Indian Creek were inspired to attempt the project after Bud Bivens spoke to them in June of 2003. He had just returned from a trip to Mexico with a group from South Carolina who built a church in less than a week. That group only did the exterior carpentry work, and installed the windows and doors. Brother Mark Cole, construction missionary to Mexico, coordinated other groups to complete the job. The Missouri group wanted to build a church from start to finish.

IC Missions Coordinator Frank Webster set February, '05 as their target date and everyone went to work raising money. Alvin Hook, Springfield 1st, heard about the project and started gathering a crew from Liberty Association who also wanted in on the fun.

Working as a team, the Indian Creek district raised \$10,700. Three crews were organized, made up of skilled and non-skilled workers with a heart for Mexico.

After a 27 hour trip, the first crew arrived at the work site Monday morning, Feb. 7th. The first order of business was to build a bathroom beside the existing "stick church." Some started there and others started digging the footing and leveling the building site. By Tuesday afternoon the floor had been poured.

That Thursday afternoon, the congregation met for their mid-week service inside the framed walls of their church, with a few pieces of siding and a few rafters. Brother Frank Webster preached and Ruth Bivens translated in a drizzle of rain. None of the close to 100 people attending left.

Week two the second crew, led by Alvin Hook, finished up the siding, the roof, the windows and doors. Brother Don Allen, of the Bixby, Okla. FWB church completed the wiring and installed four

ceiling fans, even though they probably will not have electricity in the community for at least a year. In the Thursday afternoon service that week nine people prayed to accept Christ.



The Third Crew and friends

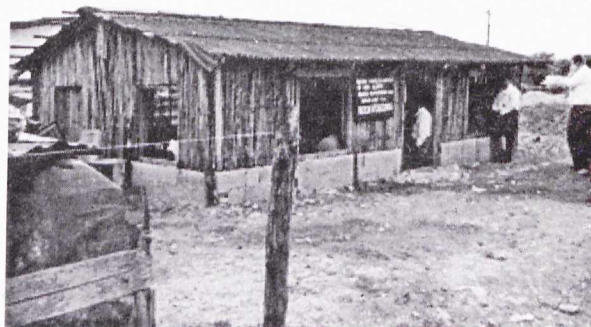
The third crew, led by Russ Neill of Purdy, finished with insulation, sheetrock, ceiling fans and paint. Three more accepted the Lord during their time on the site.

How did this experience impact the ones who went? Only time will tell.

Paul Parson said, "I was wrong. I thought I went to build a church but I received the blessing."

Gary Churchill reported to his church about his experience. When questioned, he said that he would go back with the last crew if he had the money. Someone in the congregation made that possible and he returned with the third crew.

People were amazed that someone would come from the U.S. and invest money, time and



Before

personal energy and then walk away. What they don't know is that everyone who went left something of their heart there and will continue to go back in their thoughts and prayers as long as they live. Some will return for the dedication of the building. Others want to go back and take their families for a visit.

Frank Webster reported at the pastors' luncheon that folks are already asking him, "What is our next project?"

The Mano Con Mano community sprang up on a closed landfill. Squatters who have come from the interior of the country to the port city looking for work threw up one-room shacks out of scrap pieces of lumber, tin and shipping pallets, on top of the trash.. Few of the houses have floors, there is no electricity, and only a water faucet here and there on the "street." Occasionally the area floods.

The Mexican pastors hauled in a substantial amount of dirt to raise the level of the church building and protect it. All of the activity, on the main entrance to the community, attracted the attention of everyone who lives there. Each one who passed by took notice. Many stopped to inquire. One little boy stepped inside and looked around the spacious 980 square foot sanctuary. His eyes took in the smooth cement floor, ample windows and secure doors. "Who is going to live here?" he asked quietly.

The congregation of 30 or so had been glad to have their own little stick building. Now they can use that building for the children's Sunday School class and this new building for worship services, with plenty of space to grow. And, there are several new converts to get them going.

The beautiful little church the Missouri groups left behind stands as a witness to the hundreds of people in the little community. It tells of strangers, who out of love and concern, sacrificed to come and build them a place of worship. What it does not say is that every one of those who went were profoundly touched by the experience.

Several of the group were able to walk around the community and visit with some of the neighbors. Brother Bivens remembers one man who was patiently taking the innards out of some

discarded small appliances so he could sell the copper wire and scrap metal.

Everyone we visited was very friendly. Some of the fellows told of a family they visited that invited them into their home and sent a youngster with a few coins to buy a bottle of coke to give to each of them. It broke their heart to see the poverty.

Brother Bruce Moore had warned the men "Don't admire anything in their home, or they will give it to you". He speaks from experience.

If there was one thread in common, it was that everyone received a blessing from the experience and left with a new admiration for the Mexican pastors and work there.

-Ruth Bivens



After!

I also would like to add to Ruth's letter that 12 people of the Mano conMano neighborhood were saved during the 3 week construction phase and we saw one little boy who was covered from head to toe with some kind of infection, looked like a bad case of chicken pox or some pox like disease, healed overnight after the first week crew laid hands on him and prayed for his healing. The next week the crew was constantly being asked to pray for children.

-Frank Webster

It is exciting to see what the Lord is doing through our churches and associations who are engaging in the short-term missions ministry! Those who go on such trips come back changed and with a greater vision of the need in other countries. If you want your horizons expanded and your burden for missions made heavier, go on a short-term trip! If your church or association is planning a trip and would like to open it to others outside your church or association please let us know and we will publicize it in the Gem.

-Editor

Bible College Team Visits Cuba

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—Ten students from Free Will Baptist Bible College, accompanied by veteran missionary and current missions teacher Ron Callaway, spent their spring break getting acquainted with and ministering to Christians in Cuba.



The group gave testimonies and preached in seven churches. Student Adam James said that there were six people saved in the services. "It is amazing to see how God is working in Cuba," he added.

Mr. Callaway, who served for 27 years in Cuba, Spain, and Panama, said, "I was very proud of (the students) and proud to have been able to take them to Cuba and introduce them to their Cuban brothers and sisters."

Bible College Greet 153 For Welcome Days

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—Free Will Baptist Bible College hosted 153 visitors from 15 states for its spring Welcome Days, March 24-26, 2005, according to Ryan Lewis, Director of Recruitment.

The largest state contingent was 27 from Missouri. The most from any church was 11 from First FWB Church, Farmington, Missouri. Sixty-six churches were represented in the visiting group.

Mr. Lewis says, "Welcome Days is a great time for prospective students to have fun with friends while at the same time getting a taste of the atmosphere they can experience at FWBBC. This spring's Welcome Days featured many exciting experiences for students and exposed them to the importance and the benefits of a Christian education."

The next FWBBC Welcome Days will be November 10-12, 2005. For information on attending or bringing a group, call 800•76•FWBBC or email recruit@fwbbc.edu.

Bible College Teams Post Season Results

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—Free Will Baptist Bible College's Flames and Lady Flames basketball teams ended their 2004-05 seasons in February. The Flames posted an overall record of 13-15, while the Lady Flames record was 12-14.

The Flames beat Crown College in the first round of the regional tournament, but lost to top seed Cincinnati Christian University in the semi-final game. Flame Matt Dunlap was chosen for the 2nd All-Region Team, while Derrick Parker was picked for Honorable Mention.

The Lady Flames were defeated in the regional tournament championship game by Kentucky Christian University, placing second in the region. Lady Flame Emily Cobb was voted onto the All-Region first team, Rebekah Forlines onto the 2nd team, and Elizabeth Willhite was given Honorable Mention.

The Flames are coached by Michael Phillips and the Lady Flames by Nathan Willhite.

Bible College Hires Contact Editor

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—Free Will Baptist Bible College president Matthew Pinson has announced that the college has hired Dr. Jack Williams to serve as Director of Communications.

Dr. Williams, a 1966 FWBBC graduate, served for 27 years as editor of *Contact*, the national Free Will Baptist magazine. He has also been academic dean at California Christian College, Fresno, California, for eight years.

His duties at the Bible College will include responsibility for all print resources, including news releases and articles from the college for *ONE*, the new Free Will Baptist periodical that will be sent bimonthly to the denomination. Other responsibilities will include oversight of FWBBC's website and serving as liaison with the press.

Dr. Williams says, "I consider it a signal honor to take my place as one of the deck hands on the denomination's flagship educational institution. Free Will



Baptist Bible College trained me as a minister and journalist, gave me a beautiful wife and educated both my children. Now I'm eager to invest what I've learned through 45 years of ministry in the college that made it all possible."

Dr. Williams will serve part time through May and full time beginning in June.



Green Hills Crowns Sweetheart!

The Pioneers, the seniors group of the Lebanon Green Hills Church, crowned their valentine sweetheart during the Sunday morning service February 20. Three candidates were chosen to run for this honor. The church joined in the fun and each penny contributed to the candidate of choice counted as a vote. The polls were open for three weeks before the winner was announced. Pictured in the photo are (L - R) Marie Williams second runner-up, Margie Simmons, 2005 Sweetheart, and Sybil Agan, first runner-up

Abidjan Investment Report

6 April. Greetings from the Big Peanut, Abidjan. It is with praises and thanksgivings for your continued faithful support that we send you the news from this part of God's Harvest Field. He continues to work through His People bring more into the Fold.

The week before Easter found Christians from 3rd Church out on the streets in the neighborhood witnessing, listening and talking to people about the Lord. Five men "prayed" but only one has come to church.. others are being followed up.

Several WannaBe Leaders are now meeting in South Africa...we're praying for a united country. Peace papers have been signed many times, but without being put into practice...people are weary of fighting, tension and conflicts...

All American citizens were invited to meet with the US Ambassador last week. He has been in other African countries so experienced in dealing with troubles. He saw two possibilities for the year 2005:

1. It could be a complicated year.
2. It could be a very complicated year.

Your faithful prayers are always needed and muchly appreciated.

The latest word on the church lots is a request for us to be patient..We are told we will have news today (it is now 8pm). Being from SHOW-ME MISSOURI, we await proof!

Last Sunday with the Wiggle Worm Sunday School Class was the worst yet...giggle, squirm and wiggle...they acted just like kids...Bless them.

Getting good rains..thankful to be here. His blessings as you serve in another part of His Harvest Field.

Please share any news you think might be interesting to all at church...Especially by giving our thanks to everyone for their prayers and helps. Jerry & Carol



WAC Retreat Speakers



Carol Pinkerton



Ruth Bivens

WAC Retreat Project

Again it is time to think about the MOWAC Retreat Project. Since our check box closet project was so successful last year, it was decided that the ladies of Missouri would enjoy a similar project this year. Because the National WAC office was desperately in need of a new computer and software to produce the CoLaborer in a timely fashion, the decision was made to go ahead and purchase the equipment. The Missouri Women Active for Christ have adopted the goal of raising \$3,000 to cover the cost of this long overdue technology. Here's how it will work:

At the Missouri State Meeting in June, each WAC group is asked to pick up an empty plastic CD case and take it back to their local WAC meeting. The case is to be filled with a check or cash in the amount of \$25. Your local or district WAC may want to fill more than one case, so feel free to take as many as you can fill. Also, if you have a very creative group, you might want to decorate your case in some way. Be sure your WAC name and location is included on your 'creation'. The completed cases will be collected at the MOWAC Retreat in August. The amount collected for the provision closet last year - over \$3,000. - was absolutely amazing! However, I believe the generous and dependable women of Missouri can do it again.

What a wonderful way to support the work of our National Women Active for Christ!

Missouri Women Active for Christ Retreat

Stonecroft Conference Center
Branson, Missouri

August 12-13, 2005

Registration Form

List those staying in the same room (each room has 2 double or queen size beds) Please copy this form for additional names. The cost is \$55.00 per person. This includes room and all meals

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ Church _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ Church _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ Church _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ Church _____

List those not staying at Stonecroft. Please check desired meals The total cost for registration and both meals is \$32.00 per person. You may choose meals individually.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ Church _____
____ Registration \$17.00 ____ Friday Dinner \$10.00
____ Saturday Breakfast \$5.00

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ Church _____
____ Registration \$17.00 ____ Friday Dinner \$10.00
____ Saturday Breakfast \$5.00

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ Church _____
____ Registration \$17.00 ____ Friday Dinner \$10.00
____ Saturday Breakfast \$5.00

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ Church _____
____ Registration \$17.00 ____ Friday Dinner \$10.00
____ Saturday Breakfast \$5.00

In order to accomodate the maximum number of ladies, there must be four to each room. Due to limited space and the nature of the retreat, we request no babies, please. Rooms are assigned as reservations are recieved. Reservations will not be accepted before June 20th, 2005

Total amount enclosed \$ _____. Please send **one check** for all registering with your group. Make check payable to **Missouri State WAC** (no cash please) As in years past, no refunds will be given, however, substitutions may be made. **Please send form, check and self-addressed stamped envelope to:**

Judith Ruble, 610 Hunters Creek Dr, Lebanon, MO 65536



Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists

Your Store in Lebanon for all your
Book and Bible needs.

417-532-9516

February 2005 Financial Report

Cooperative Disbursements

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| February 2005 | \$83,981.48 |
| 18.50% St HM | \$15,536.57 |
| 17.00% Exec. Office | \$14,276.85 |
| 3.00% Gen. Fund | \$2,519.44 |
| .50% Show-Me Bd. | \$419.91 |
| 8.50% Youth Camp | \$7,138.91 |
| 2.50% Youth Min. | \$2,099.54 |
| 2.50% CE | \$2,099.54 |
| 2.50% Senior Adult | \$2,099.54 |
| 9.00% Mo Retirement . | \$7,558.33 |
| 3.00% Show-Me Plan .. | \$2,519.44 |
| 33.00% | \$27,713.89 |
| National Ministries | |
| Total | \$83,981.48 |

The Coop allocation for the
National Ministries is
undesignated this year
with FWBBC and Hillsdale
receiving an equal amount.

CO-OP

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Amity | \$118.95 |
| Aulsbury Chapel | \$265.10 |
| Bailey | \$218.00 |
| Bailey Chapel | \$186.00 |
| Bailey Chapel | \$152.00 |
| Belton | \$323.80 |
| Berean | \$180.00 |
| Bethel- El Dorado Springs | \$329.51 |
| Bethel- Rogersville | \$306.00 |
| Black Oak | \$466.14 |
| Byrd | \$78.00 |
| Cabool | \$328.20 |
| Cabool | \$334.70 |
| Calvary Chapel | \$1,569.02 |
| Calvary Fellowship | \$450.00 |
| Cape Girardeau 1st | \$637.75 |
| Carthage | \$335.00 |
| Carthage | \$390.00 |
| Central | \$955.76 |
| Christ Chapel | \$206.00 |
| Clifton | \$43.01 |
| Columbia | \$438.96 |
| Copper Mines | \$525.47 |
| Cornerstone | \$516.26 |
| Cross Roads- Lebanon | \$249.98 |
| Crossroads- Wentzville | \$737.00 |
| Cuba | \$414.00 |
| Cuba | \$470.00 |
| De Soto 1st | \$1,600.00 |
| DeSoto 1st | \$1,660.00 |
| Farmington 1st | \$5,794.79 |
| Fellowship | \$1,200.00 |
| Fordland | \$473.29 |
| Fourth | \$197.94 |
| Fredericktown 1st | \$390.00 |
| Freeman Chapel | \$417.60 |
| Gospel Light | \$100.00 |
| Grace | \$1,811.00 |
| Grant Avenue | \$932.40 |
| Grant Ave. | \$905.00 |
| Green Hills- Kirksville | \$50.00 |
| Greenfield | \$301.00 |
| Hannibal | \$775.00 |
| Hannon | \$820.00 |
| Harmony | \$562.08 |
| Hartville | \$1,297.00 |
| Hartville | \$1,268.00 |
| Harvest- Grandview | \$321.70 |
| Hazel Creek | \$371.32 |
| Heritage | \$100.00 |
| Hickory Grove | \$208.00 |
| Hopwell | \$279.00 |
| Houston 1st | \$323.85 |
| Hurryville | \$635.05 |
| Jackson | \$214.96 |
| Joplin 1st | \$604.36 |
| Jordan- Jeff. City | \$421.91 |
| Kings Way | \$397.00 |
| Koskonong | \$134.00 |
| Lead Hill | \$494.71 |
| Leadington | \$369.18 |
| Leadington | \$362.58 |
| Lebanon 1st | \$1,185.53 |
| Lebanon Greenhills | \$646.70 |
| Lebanon Greenhills | \$578.54 |
| Macedonia- Niangua | \$113.00 |
| Marshfield | \$510.00 |
| Merls Chapel | \$192.00 |
| Mill Creek | \$487.35 |
| Mill Creek | \$506.85 |
| Mine La Motte | \$95.06 |
| Monett 1st | \$681.95 |
| Monett 1st | \$718.60 |
| Mt Pisgah | \$1,241.00 |
| Mtn. Grove 1st | \$1,949.49 |
| Mtn. Grove 1st | \$2,155.00 |
| Myrtle | \$291.11 |
| Myrtle | \$339.60 |
| Neosho 1st | \$285.00 |
| Nevada | \$300.00 |
| New Harmony | \$5,768.47 |
| New Home- Lebanon | \$385.90 |
| New Hope- Fredericktown | \$345.37 |
| New Life- Licking | \$350.00 |
| Niangua | \$218.10 |
| Number One | \$168.81 |
| O' Fallon 1st | \$1,327.00 |
| Oak Hill | \$427.00 |
| Olivet | \$1,510.00 |
| Overland | \$200.00 |
| Ozark 1st | \$2,040.81 |
| Palabras De Vida Eterna | \$75.00 |
| Park Hills 1st | \$1,541.48 |
| Parkview | \$429.13 |
| Pleasant Hill | \$157.31 |
| Pleasant Home | \$482.16 |
| Pleasant Ridge- Urbana | \$104.00 |
| Potosi 1st | \$120.36 |
| Rock Chapel | \$334.44 |
| Rolla 1st | \$340.00 |
| Royal Oak | \$113.00 |
| Salem | \$30.00 |
| Seymour | \$477.00 |
| Smyna | \$103.00 |
| South Fremont | \$980.00 |
| Springfield 1st | \$1,026.51 |
| St. Francois Assn. | \$90.00 |
| Thayer | \$2,233.00 |
| Thayer | \$1,140.00 |
| Trinity | \$802.63 |
| Twin Oak | \$1,650.00 |
| Union | \$60.00 |
| Union Grove | \$602.45 |
| Union Grove | \$607.00 |
| Union Light | \$181.00 |
| United | \$1,539.15 |
| Unity | \$540.00 |
| Viburnum | \$446.43 |
| Viburnum | \$2,587.00 |
| Victory- Alton | \$589.17 |
| Waynesville 1st | \$392.70 |
| West Plains 1st | \$658.00 |
| West Plains 1st | \$661.00 |
| Willow Springs- Mtn. Grv | \$343.60 |
| Wolf Creek | \$509.39 |
| Total | \$83,981.48 |

Show-Me

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Bailey Chapel | \$15.00 |
| Belton | \$165.00 |
| Berean | \$60.00 |
| Berry, R. | \$15.00 |
| Bethel- El Dorado | \$329.51 |
| Bethel- Festus | \$45.00 |
| Black Oak | \$60.00 |
| Brown, J. | \$15.00 |
| Burns, J. | \$60.00 |
| Cabool 1st | \$105.00 |
| Cabool 1st | \$105.00 |
| Calvary Chapel | \$105.00 |
| Calvary Fellowship | \$983.00 |
| Central | \$90.00 |
| Chrisman, M. | \$30.00 |
| CO-OP | \$2,519.44 |
| Copper Mines | \$195.00 |
| Copper Mines | \$30.00 |
| Cornerstone | \$351.22 |
| Cross Roads- Lebanon | \$60.00 |
| Cuba | \$84.00 |
| Cuba | \$93.00 |
| DeSoto 1st | \$732.50 |
| DeSoto 1st | \$702.50 |
| Faith | \$20.00 |
| Faith & Hope- W Spngs | \$30.00 |
| Farmington 1st | \$390.00 |
| Farmington 1st | \$1,054.00 |
| Fellowship | \$739.00 |
| Fordland | \$250.00 |
| Fourth | \$60.00 |
| Fredericktown 1st | \$90.00 |
| FWB Church- St. Croix | \$60.00 |
| Freeman Chapel | \$720.00 |
| Gospel Light | \$1,000.00 |
| Grace | \$430.00 |
| Grant Avenue | \$290.00 |
| Grant Avenue | \$280.00 |
| Greenfield | \$200.00 |
| Greenfield | \$200.00 |
| Hannibal WNAC | \$30.00 |
| Hannon | \$880.00 |
| Happy Hill | \$60.00 |
| Harmony | \$100.04 |
| Hartville | \$240.00 |
| Hartville | \$240.00 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Harvest- Grandview | \$25.00 |
| Hazel Creek | \$247.55 |
| Houston 1st | \$383.56 |
| Hurryville | \$550.00 |
| Jackson | \$35.00 |
| Jones Chapel | \$300.00 |
| Joplin 1st | \$75.00 |
| Jordan- Jefferson City | \$60.00 |
| Leadington | \$195.00 |
| Leadington | \$180.00 |
| Lebanon 1st | \$150.00 |
| Lebanon Greenhills | \$75.00 |
| Lebanon Greenhills | \$60.00 |
| Macedonia- Purdy | \$2,000.00 |
| Maggart, D. | \$45.00 |
| Maggart, D. | \$50.00 |
| Mill Creek | \$140.00 |
| Mill Creek | \$140.00 |
| Mill Creek CWF | \$15.00 |
| Mill Creek- Yng Adlt Class | \$15.00 |
| Mill Creek- Yng Adlt Class | \$15.00 |
| Mine La Motte | \$75.00 |
| MO WAC | \$940.26 |
| Monett 1st | \$30.00 |
| Monett 1st | \$30.00 |
| Mountain Grove 1st | \$470.00 |
| Mountain Grove 1st | \$435.00 |
| Mt. Pisgah | \$150.00 |
| Mt. Zion- Thayer | \$30.00 |
| Myrtle | \$75.00 |
| Myrtle | \$75.00 |
| Neosho 1st | \$330.00 |
| New Beginning | \$164.10 |
| New Home- Hartville | \$210.00 |
| New Home- Lebanon | \$120.00 |
| New Hope- Fredericktown | \$150.00 |
| New Life- Licking | \$83.75 |
| New Life- Monett | \$600.00 |
| Number One | \$60.00 |
| O' Fallon 1st | \$229.31 |
| Oak Grove- Houston | \$30.00 |
| Oak Hill | \$20.00 |
| Old Bethel | \$540.00 |
| Olivet | \$75.00 |
| Palabras de Vida Eterna | \$25.00 |
| Park Hills | \$462.45 |
| Parkview | \$199.00 |
| Pinkerton, J. | \$45.00 |
| Pleasant Hill | \$45.00 |
| Pleasant Ridge- Urbana | \$50.00 |
| Porter Chapel | \$795.00 |
| Purdy 1st | \$1,035.00 |
| Richwoods 1st | \$52.50 |
| Rock Chapel | \$240.00 |
| Rock Springs | \$91.00 |
| Rolla 1st | \$30.00 |
| Royal Oak | \$120.00 |
| South Fremont | \$90.00 |
| Springfield 1st | \$530.00 |
| Thayer | \$405.00 |
| Thayer | \$225.00 |
| Trinity | \$430.92 |
| Union Grove | \$60.00 |
| Union Grove | \$75.00 |
| Union Light | \$150.00 |
| United | \$300.00 |
| Unity | \$75.00 |
| Viburnum | \$450.00 |
| Viburnum | \$75.00 |
| Victory- Alton | \$45.00 |
| Walker, H. | \$10.00 |

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Walnut Grove | \$15.00 |
| Waynesville 1st | \$423.75 |
| Willow Springs- Mtn. Grv | \$30.00 |
| Total | \$30,571.36 |

International Missions

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Belton | \$75.00 |
| Calvary Fellowship | \$115.00 |
| Central | \$50.00 |
| Cuba | \$29.50 |
| DeSoto 1st | \$110.00 |
| Faith & Hope- W Spngs | \$15.00 |
| Farmington 1st | \$20.00 |
| Grant Avenue | \$28.21 |
| Greenfield | \$1,412.00 |
| Hartville | \$70.00 |
| Hickory Grove | \$83.55 |
| Houston 1st | \$60.00 |
| Lebanon Greenhills | \$130.00 |
| Matthews, A. | \$15.00 |
| Mountain Grove 1st | \$613.00 |
| New Life- Monett | \$100.00 |
| New Testament | \$110.00 |
| Noel, D. | \$15.00 |
| Rock Chapel | \$19.00 |
| Rolla 1st | \$287.88 |
| South Fremont | \$30.00 |
| Springfield 1st | \$171.38 |
| Thayer | \$30.00 |
| Waynesville 1st | \$85.00 |
| Total | \$3,674.52 |

State Home Missions

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Bethel- Festus | \$15.00 |
| De Soto 1st | \$100.00 |
| DeSoto 1st | \$100.00 |
| Fellowship | \$100.00 |
| Fordland | \$10.00 |
| Gospel Light | \$160.00 |
| Grace | \$55.00 |
| Grant Ave. | \$45.25 |
| Grant Avenue | \$46.62 |
| Green Hills- Kirksville | \$200.00 |
| Harvest- Grandview | \$100.00 |
| Lebanon Book Store | \$540.00 |
| Macedonia- Monett | \$200.00 |
| Mt. Pisgah | \$60.00 |
| Myrtle | \$85.00 |
| Myrtle | \$85.00 |
| Neosho 1st | \$50.00 |
| New Testament | \$80.00 |
| O'Fallon | \$217.31 |
| Ozark 1st | \$10.00 |
| Palabras De Vida Eterna | \$100.00 |
| Pleasant Ridge- Urbana | \$20.00 |
| Rolla 1st | \$287.87 |
| Thayer | \$50.00 |
| Thayer | \$50.00 |
| Trinity | \$40.13 |
| Union | \$45.00 |
| United | \$25.00 |
| Unity | \$75.00 |
| Waynesville 1st | \$50.00 |
| Total | \$3,002.18 |

National Home Missions

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Belton | \$30.00 |
| Calvary Fellowship | \$4,412.00 |
| Carthage | \$10.00 |
| Central | \$50.00 |
| Cuba | \$88.50 |
| De Soto 1st | \$460.00 |
| Farmington 1st | \$2,676.38 |
| Fordland | \$10.00 |
| Fourth | \$50.00 |
| Fredericktown 1st | \$20.00 |
| Gospel Light | \$160.00 |
| Grace | \$132.00 |
| Grant Avenue | \$111.87 |
| Hartville | \$100.00 |
| Houston 1st | \$30.00 |
| Jackson | \$42.50 |
| Jerry Rader | \$20.00 |
| Jordan- Jefferson City | \$60.00 |
| Monett 1st | \$10.00 |
| Mt. Pisgah | \$60.00 |
| Mtn. Grove 1st | \$60.00 |
| Myrtle | \$160.00 |
| Neosho 1st | \$100.00 |
| New Home- Hartville | \$10.00 |
| New Life- Monett | \$150.00 |
| New Testament | \$130.00 |
| O' Fallon 1st | \$217.31 |
| Oak Hill | \$32.00 |
| Park Hills 1st | \$334.15 |
| Richwoods | \$72.40 |
| Rock Chapel | \$70.90 |
| Springfield 1st | \$1,464.12 |
| Thayer | \$260.00 |
| Trinity | \$60.13 |
| Union Light | \$96.00 |
| United | \$150.00 |
| Unity | \$90.00 |
| Waynesville 1st | \$94.75 |
| West Plains 1st | \$35.00 |
| Wolf Creek | \$10.00 |
| Total | \$12,130.01 |

Berea Ministries

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Hartville | \$150.00 |
| Hartville | \$150.00 |
| Total | \$300.00 |

Trula Cronk Childrens Home

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Hartville | \$50.00 |
| Myrtle | \$27.00 |
| Desoto 1st | \$80.00 |
| Hannon | \$100.00 |
| Belton | \$25.00 |
| Unity | \$20.00 |
| Union Light | \$60.00 |
| New Hope- Frdtn. | \$50.00 |
| Houston 1st | \$20.00 |
| Myrtle | \$26.00 |
| Hartville | \$50.00 |
| Desoto 1st | \$90.00 |
| North Five | \$15.31 |
| North Five | \$10.00 |
| Total | \$623.31 |

Victor Torrez

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| United Youth Group | \$400.00 |
| Total | \$400.00 |

Christian Education Board

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lebanon Bookstore | \$140.00 |
| Total | \$140.00 |

Indian Bible College

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| DeSoto 1st | \$10.00 |
| Total | \$10.00 |

Missouri Retirement

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lebanon Bookstore | \$200.00 |
| Total | \$200.00 |

Youth With A Mission

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Belton | \$25.00 |
| Total | \$25.00 |

Robbie Rutledge

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| MO WAC | \$204.03 |
| Total | \$204.03 |

Senior Adult Board

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lebanon Bookstore | \$140.00 |
| Total | \$140.00 |

Youth Camp

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Hartville | \$10.00 |
| Mt. Pisgah | \$15.00 |
| Mt. Pisgah | \$15.00 |
| Mountain Grove 1st | \$10.00 |
| Lebanon Bookstore | \$540.00 |
| New Home-Hartville | \$10.00 |
| Rolla 1st | \$20.00 |
| Desoto 1st | \$55.00 |
| Thayer | \$50.00 |
| Willow Springs- M Grove .. | \$10.00 |
| Cornerstone | \$25.00 |
| Union | \$30.00 |
| Trinity | \$9.00 |
| West Plains 1st | \$25.00 |
| Ozark 1st | \$10.00 |
| Hartville | \$10.00 |
| Mountain Grove 1st | \$15.00 |
| Desoto 1st | \$55.00 |
| Thayer | \$50.00 |
| Total | \$964.00 |

Youth Camp Development

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Myrtle | \$96.00 |
| Houston 1st | \$200.00 |
| Total | \$296.00 |

Youth Ministries Board

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Lebanon Bookstore | \$140.00 |
| Total | \$140.00 |

Little Blue Flower

By J. Mark Vandivort

Our phone rang. I heard my cousin's voice saying that his dad had died. After I hung up the phone my wife said, "I believe you ought to go to the funeral." I was feeling the same way. Immediately I began preparing for the drive to North Carolina — then decided to take the bus — a 30-hour ride. I wanted to pay tribute to a man whom I loved, Uncle Adam.

As I listened to the drone of the bus's diesel engine, I began to formulate a plan. I determined that when the bus stopped in Ashville, NC, I would kneel to the ground and thank God for the nearly 45 years since the day that I met my wife in that Smokey Mountain city. We met on a Wednesday afternoon during our church's annual convention. At the close of that session, Uncle Adam handed me the keys to his new VW Bug. I still remember the twinkle in his eyes and his mischievous smile.

The Greyhound stopped for 10 minutes, giving me enough time to hike around the corner into a grove of trees. There I knelt on the red clay soil and prayed. Part of my prayer included a prayer for the faithful Christian women that God has planned for our 8 grandsons and the men of Christian faith that God has planned for our 5 granddaughters.

Then I noticed that the forest floor was covered with tiny, brilliant blue flowers. Their slender stems held their radiant beauty about 2 inches above the soil. On impulse I picked one and placed it between the pages of my pocket New Testament. The Scripture passage read, "If I could speak in any language in heaven or on earth but didn't love others, I would only be making meaningless noise like a loud gong or a clinging cymbal. ...

"Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. "Love will last forever. ...

"It's like this: When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child does. But when I grew up, I put away childish things. Now we see things imperfectly as in a poor mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God knows me now.

"There are three things that will endure — faith, hope, and love — and the greatest of these is love" (I Corinthians 13, New Living Translation).

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