



GEM

Missouri Free Will Baptist

Magazine

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Volume 79 / Number 3 / March, 2008

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All items for publication must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 1st day of the month preceding the month of issue.

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Address all correspondence relating to the GEM, including subscription and mailing information, to the above address.

Articles and Photos may be submitted by e-mail to info@mofwb.org

The sermons and articles published in the GEM represent the personal views of the authors and not necessarily the views or policies of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists or the Editor.

Subscription rates:

Single subscription,
\$6.50 per year

Church Plan,
\$6.00 per year,
consisting of ten
subscriptions or more.

The Church Plan will continue until it is canceled by the church.

This magazine is published monthly and has been in regular publication since 1929.



Read the GEM online at
www.mofwb.org

From the Editor

Jesus and Global Warming

Why is it that I hear echoes of Chicken Little whenever some expert speaks about global warming? I guess that crying "the ice is melting" or "the seas are rising" would be akin to "the sky is falling."

Now wait, before you rise up against me, let me hurry to assure you that I do believe there is climate change taking place. There always has been and always will be as long as the Lord chooses to leave the earth as it is now. The very fact that we have seasons shows us that climate variations are a part of God's plan for the earth. I am sure that there are times in history when it was cooler than it is now and times when it was warmer. A growing number of reputable scientists are trying to tell us that there are many reasons for these changes. Those scientists say that the greatest factor in the changing global climate is the Sun. Imagine that. Interestingly there are growing numbers of qualified scientists, experts in their fields, speaking out who have been silent heretofore. Why now? They are protesting the hysteria that is accompanying the hype.

We are told that it is an increase in carbon dioxide that is fueling the warming. This is supposed to be devastating to our environment. This is supported by a giant graph shown in Al Gore's movie "An Inconvenient Truth." But the truth is actually that the graph is wrong. The line that represents carbon dioxide and the line that represents temperature change have been reversed. In reality, in the history of the earth, an increase in temperature always precedes an increase in carbon dioxide. And that is often by well over a hundred years!

It occurs to me that to say man is causing the increase in temperature the earth experiences from time to time is awfully presumptuous on our part. While it is certainly true that we can affect our local environment,

to say that we are affecting the entire planet is dreaming. Climate change is just as natural as wind and rain and storms and lightening. We have tried for years to influence those things to no avail. Neither will we change global warming or cooling.

The greatest danger I see with this movement is not their crackpot science, but rather their elevation of their thinking to religious status. Men have always chased "scientific" thought to dead ends. Amazingly, the earth is not the center of the solar system and neither is it flat. But to hear pronouncements like Al Gore made recently at the New Baptist Covenant Celebration in Atlanta is highly disturbing. He said

that protecting the earth from global warming is a mandatory part of following Jesus. His remarks came during a speech at the "Stewardship of the Earth" luncheon on Jan. 31. "This is not a political issue," Gore told a crowd of approximately 2,500 paying attendees. "It is a moral issue. It is an ethical issue. It is a spiritual issue." (www.bpnnews.net/BP-news.asp?ID=27293)



Men have always chased everything they could find to answer that deep longing inside for a cause higher than themselves. They dedicate their time and money to everything that moves because man is not complete without some higher dedication. That is the "God" longing our creator placed within us. It can only be satisfied with a relationship with Him, yet people have been seeking a substitute as long as man has existed. Along with that relationship comes a desire to be obedient to our creator and live by his instructions. I understand that there are many worthy causes that are not found specifically in the Word. You would think that if fighting global warming was a part of following Jesus, you would find at least a small mention in the Word somewhere. Gore says it is in Luke 12:54-57 *"And he said also to the people, When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is. And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat; and it cometh to pass. Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time? Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?"*

It would seem to me that those verses support the idea that God has ordained nature to work according to His principles. We can predict what will happen based the signs He has established. His laws govern the universe and control the atmosphere on our planet. We can wisely observe and understand them, but we cannot change them. When we begin to say that saving the

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Missouri Show-Me Missions



Asking for the Road in Ivory Coast

23 Jan. Hello. Thanks ever so much for your prayers during our asking for the road trip. The Lord answered in amazing ways Each place/each person has a story all their own..but I've only gathered my thoughts to write about one so far...here it is:

The trip to Nassian. We took a small box of food including the basics.. An ABJ friend had been given some Vienna Sausages which she despised.. and we love, so her 3 cans were in the "just in case" food box.

Well, after we arrived at Nassian & meeting/visiting with the pastor they took us to our lodgings. The Catholics have a nice place there--but we were taken to a member's home..his wife lives in Bondoukou so he is there alone????

The house was basically empty except for some nice living room chairs. The bed room had a bed & a chair. No linens, no pillows..the mattress was covered in a noisy plastic. The bathroom had a commode sans lid..the shower room had a shower hose on the wall with a hole in the floor. We never did find a sink. Thankfully, because we knew the nights are cold, we'd taken a sleep-

ing bag-which became our sheet..folded towels became pillows..so all was well. Nothing had been said about an evening meal...so we opened a can of the delicious Vienna Sausages & ate with crackers we'd taken. They were so tasty & we thanked God for them and for the friend sharing them..merci.

Just as we finished there was a tap tap at the door. One of the deacon's wife had supper on her head Pounded enyams with the White Pastor's favorite sauce: Pistache. We thanked her and ate as starving bears...It was soo soo good.

Services that night were extra special..but the precious part is that when we first arrived there in 1974 all the same people were present. That was amazing to us..at least 20 who were then older teens...now, are older and looked tired.All are super thin..the women are as beautiful as ever...Even the "crazy man" who prayed our first Sunday there remains...powerful God we serve! It was an overflowing heart/eyes time..Praise God.

The windows in our bedroom did not have screens, so we closed them and sprayed the room before going to evening service..They did have a fan..yippee. But electricity went off shortly after we went to bed.

The following morning we showed again & began packing to leave. We had a peanut butter sandwich...then another tap tap on the door. The owner of the house had called a lady to prepare for us...egg omlette with tomatoe and onion that you placed inside a piece of French



Bread..coffee, tea, milk, sugar... anything one could desire. Yummy encore!

We'd just finished when the Deacon's wife came...with a pan on her head: petit déjeuner. It was small squares of cooked enyam (left overs from night before?) and a red sauce beside it. Didn't know what it was, but she'd spend time/energy preparing it..so we ate for the third time! Later since the sauce was so good I asked how she had prepared it. Crushed tomatoes, cooked onion with egg mixed in. Health-wise, the egg most likely wasn't good for us, but we'd already swallowed! Another reason why food blessings are so important!

Thanking all for their generous hospitality, we packed and headed off to Talahini. You can't get to Talahini from Nassian..you must pass through Paradise (I kid not-find it on the map). At Paradise you make a left turn., following some of the most horrible roads ever..complete with long areas of deep,fine sand. A regular car could not make it. Even the 4x4 pickup grunted and growled. The Nassian Pastor was with us...we made it to Talahini by prayers...that's another story.

Jerry and Carol will fly into Kansas City on March 27th -Ed.

News from Villalba

Dear Friends in Missouri, We thank the Lord for so many generous gifts from believers in the USA for the Nehemiah Project (the new Villalba Church building). These are both a blessing and a challenge to local believers, especially in light of the elevated costs of construction in Spain. (The approximate cost is \$800,000.) Please continue to pray! We'll keep you updated with new pictures as we have them. The target date for completion of the building in February of 2009.

We are in the process of translating and preparing our second weekend leader's training event (mini LMC) in Spain. We have a retreat center outside Madrid reserved for March 20-22 for the first stage: the training of the trainers. In this initial gathering, we'll be working with five local leaders to prepare them to train other leaders in the session they/we will offer all the churches later on in the year. Since the last weekend training event

(May 2007), there have been several requests for another one. The need is definitely there. Please pray for the detailed work involved in preparing the materials and the people for this year's training events here in Spain. We still have a lot of work to do to prepare the materials and ourselves for this initial meeting in March.

Thank you for continuing to pray for a weekly home evangelistic Bible study we have been hosting in our home. It is obvious that Lannah truly knows the Lord, for which we give thanks. Originally from England, she has become a part of our local church in Villalba. We continue to move through the Gospel of John and are preparing to begin basic discipleship studies.

Some of the young people from the Villalba Church that Susan works with came to the house this week for a break from their studies — most of them are in exams this



week. Please pray for them. (That's them with Susan in the photo above.)

A local email address that we have used for the last few years is no longer functional (jeferey@telefonica.net). In case you have that address on file for us, please feel free to delete it and use this one (jturnbough@fwbgo.com).

Here for HIS glory,
Jeff & Susan

Jeff Turnbough
Susana Crowson

jturnbough@fwbgo.com
<http://www.iglesiadevillalba.org/>
<http://www.fwbgo.com/>

Calvary Fellowship Builds Churches in India



Pastor Jerry Norris, Delsie Troutman, Chairwoman of the Missions Committee and Barry Simpson, Director of Development, International Missions

"It was a year ago, when Bro. Gary Fry came to our church to present the slides on the work in India, that our people became burdened for India. Most of our people had only heard of Carlisle Hanna through our Show Me emphasis. It was our original intent to raise \$15,000 to build one church, but momentum began to build, and when Bro. Gary returned for a "refresher course," our people responded with renewed vigor. It was good to have Barry Simpson from International Missions present as we presented the check in the amount of \$35, 168.01."

-Pastor Jerry Norris

Why You Sent Me Here...

By Scott Cheatham

"You were the only one he wanted to talk to..." Those were the words that came from the phone as I listened intently. My wife had handed me the phone after receiving a call from a lady who said she had to speak to me.

"John" (not his real name) had just lost a son. The child was only two months old and died Monday from SIDS. I hadn't seen John since his mother had passed away nearly two years ago. John's mother attended our mission work and when she died, I was able to meet the family and minister as best I could though they lived a good distance from our church. I had not heard from any of them since that time so when Becky handed me the phone and I heard those words I was taken completely by surprise.

The lady who called was John's sister in law. Her family serves the Lord and lives in the mountains. When plans were being made for the child's funeral, she asked John about a minister. He told her I was his choice and asked if she would call me. From what I was told, he simply said "Call mama's pastor..He's the only one I want to talk to." From her voice, I could tell his grieving was more than even she could tell me about. "Please call him now" she pleaded. "I don't want them mad at God and they need a loving pastor to heal their brokenness."

I knew that I was facing a tall order. John didn't attend church and neither did any of his family. They had a head knowledge of the Lord but not a heart knowledge. As I hung up the phone with John's sister in law, I began to pray. "God what do I tell them? How do I relate? I've never lost a child Lord, especially one so young. Oh God, I feel so inadequate. God, why me? Why did you choose me?" I don't take funerals lightly. I see them as one of God's great opportunities to speak to the heart about the frailty of life and the need to get right with the Lord. My messages are always interlaced with a call to get saved and that's not popular with some but for many, it might be the only chance God has to speak to them and I want to do my very, very best for the Lord.

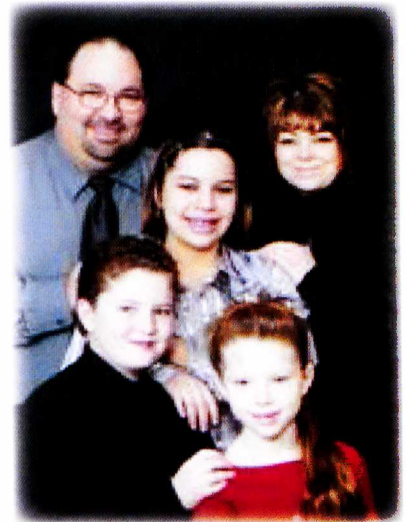
"Hello" came the faltering voice on the phone as I nervously began my conversation with John. For the next 20 minutes or so, John cried and poured out his heart. He was numb with pain and couldn't even express his thoughts. I could understand why. "Why don't we just pray?" I asked. He agreed. As I began to pray, I could hear his muffled sobs through the words

of my petition on his behalf. "Lord, hold him close right now. Pain is expected but only your grace and love can heal him" was really the crux of what I asked for. I knew it to be the only salve that would heal the gaping wound of

losing a child. When I finished, he thanked me several times. "Mama always loved you" he told me. "She respected your heart". I was humbled. When we hung up, I began to cry because I felt the weight of his pain. My wife comforted me and reminded me that I had to be strong to minister to them. We prayed again.

Saturday came. The funeral home was filled to overflowing. people were lined up outside, in the snack area, in two adjacent rooms complete with monitors, and in the hallway. The funeral director looked at me and said "You will have quite the audience today pastor." Then he asked if he could pray for me in his office. I've never had that privilege before. He told me of his own faith and how he was hurt by the lack of gospel messages he had heard preached in his establishment. He told me "Preach Jesus! Tell them of his love and the hope for eternity." I was stunned. That's exactly what I was prepared to do but again, as I looked at the crowd, I knew in my heart that God would have to move mightily to reach them. I had a peace in my heart about my message and I simply asked God to move through each row of chairs and allow the Holy Spirit to touch lives and change hearts.

The final song finished. I began the long walk to the podium and opened my bible. For the sake of brevity I'll simply mention that I began by sharing about the babies that had been born in the bible stories and how they had changed mankind. I spoke about Isaac, Samuel, Jeremiah, John the Baptist and of course, Jesus. After a few moments, my message moved to the time honored book of Romans. As families wept for this little loved one, I told them of his homegoing and how his grandmother, a beautiful believer, was now smiling from ear to ear to embrace her grandchild in heaven. As heads nodded in agreement, I moved into the next segment of my message. "If statistics are



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Missouri Life....

Baptisms at Rolla First

The First FWB of Rolla recently had the blessing of having four of our young people receive Jesus Christ as their Savior during a Youth Sunday service. After personal counseling from Pastor Ed these four precious blessings were baptized.

We give praise to God for the Holy Spirit revealing to these children the blessing of knowing Christ as their personal Savior. We thank our Sunday School teachers and Children Church worker for being a part of revealing the truth of Jesus and salvation to our children.

Each child received a certificate and were blessed to have family members and friends attend their baptism service.

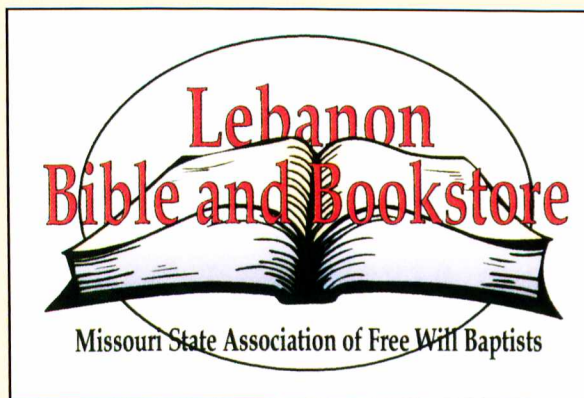


From left to right is LaMonda Span, Hope Hilpert, Treveon Luster, and Dustin Hilpert with Pastor Ed Fields.

Send your items for **Missouri Life** to info@mofwb.org or Gem, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, MO 65536

The Literature you use makes a difference!

In a day when doctinal differences are being discounted in many churches, we are still proud of our Free Will Baptist doctrial stand and our heritage. The best way to continue the truth and tradition is to use the only literature that teaches a distinctive Free Will Baptist doctrine. Available at Lebanon Bible and Bookstore, the Randall House Clear Curriculum is available for every age groups from the Nursery to the Adults. Included are several aids for at home devotions and reinforcement of the values you hold important for your family. We also offer the Classic Bible Scholar for those who prefer its approach. Ask for Randall House Curriculum today at Lebanon Bible and Bookstore. Don't forget that a portion of the profits of the Bookstore goes back into the Coop Plan to benefit our State Ministries.



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environment from man-made catastrophe is our spiritual duty we are placing a minor pursuit on the same level as saving men. This seems to be what the Devil likes to do. Take marginally worthy causes and put them in place of what really matters in this world. One of his best methods is misdirection. It seems the church and Christian people are drawn so easily away from what is most important. You can expect it from the world. They do not know the truth.

I do believe in being a good stew-

ard of all that God has given us, including the earth. We are to be the example of the believer in all we do. But let us not get caught up in anything that is trivial and temporary and neglect the eternal. Someone recently said, "If Jesus was still here he would be fighting global warming!" I hardly think so. Jesus created the world and He knows that global warming is of little consequence. When Jesus was here, His stated purpose was to seek and to save that which was lost, everything else came second. I would think that still holds true today.

to be believed, not all of you here today will enter into that place." I continued, "God wants all of us there and my hope is that you all will believe and take Jesus into your heart and live obediently for Him but some will sleep in tomorrow and see no need to go to a house of worship. Some will not even bother to acknowledge the Lord. We see the frailty of life and that for all of our medical advances and all of our worldly wisdom, we cannot control life. Only God can and today he makes you very aware of this and calls to you from the throne of heaven to accept his son and have eternal life."

There was more I shared about salvation and eternal life but suffice it to say, I was humbled again as I left the podium and began to walk down the aisle. A funeral home employee stopped me and hugged me and thanked me for saying what I did. "I needed that" she said. Another person came to me and asked about our church. I was some distance away from them but they said they might come just to see me again. Another person came to me and said "I've never heard the gospel preached so cleanly and clearly at a funeral. You are a breath of fresh air." I reminded them that the Lord is to receive any

and all glory that comes from any good in such a rough situation. I prayed with another family that was struggling with a variety of issues. Before I left, the family embraced me and told me they would be in touch. I certainly hope so. They might not be in my church, but I want to see be a part of THE church. They need salvation and I pray the Lord will speak to them in the midst of this tragic loss.

I close by taking a moment to thank you. I share this story with you because you are a part of it. Without good Free Will Baptist folks supporting this ministry, I could not minister here and the impact of what happened this week would have never occurred. Recently, I spoke with Reverend Bob Thebeau, a great friend and a member of our Home Mission Board. Reverend Thebeau pastors our Free Will Baptist Church in DeSoto, Missouri. He was speaking to me as an encouragement and reminded me to simply "keep your nose to the grindstone" in reference to what we've been doing here. He added "We love you and the work you're doing...We're proud of you". That meant the world to me. He didn't know it when he said it, but the words he spoke were a great comfort. Those words came to me as I rested in a fast food restaurant shortly after the funeral to write

some notes in my journal and reflect on the amazing blessings I've received as a Home Missionary to Denver.

At times, the struggles seem like a weight too great to move. At times like this, those troubles seem quite small compared to the grief I was called to minister to this weekend. "God, THANK YOU for choosing me. God, THANK YOU for giving me your word. God, forgive me for questioning you. And God, thank you for men like Bob Thebeau and the good Free Will Baptists who make it possible for me to serve you as I serve others."

I am wonderfully blessed to be a part of our National Home Missions department. God Bless You.

The preceeding article is an excerpt from Scotts online blog. This article and others can be found at <http://rangeviewfwb-mission.blogspot.com>

This is a great way to keep up to date on what is happening with Scott and his family and the Rangeview Free Will Baptist Mission in North Denver, Colorado!

E.B. McDonald With the Lord

NASHVILLE, TN—Reverend E. Bayless McDonald, who served 32 years as treasurer at Free Will Baptist Bible College, died January 28, 2008. He was 86 years old. Reverend McDonald and his wife Katherine both retired from FWBBC in December 1985. Mrs. McDonald supervised the college dining hall 26 years. She died in 2004.

Former FWBBC president Dr. Charles A. Thigpen worked with McDonald more than 30 years. He said, "Brother 'Mac'

was one of the few men who measured up to his full capabilities..... He was one of the finest and most genuine men I've ever met."

Rev. McDonald kept a close eye on the college's finances for three decades and a closer eye on the students, becoming a father figure to many young ministers. FWBBC designated December 6, 1985, as "McDonald Appreciation Day" and scheduled a chapel service and reception in honor of E.B. and Katherine McDonald.

E.B. and Katherine McDonald had four sons—David McDonald (Tennessee), Tim McDonald (Ten-



nessee pastor), Richard McDonald (Oklahoma musician), and Donald McDonald (missionary to Japan).



MOFWB

2008 Calendar

March 10-12

Ministers Retreat...Cross Pointe Retreat Center, Rocky Mount, MO

May 6

Palmer Leadership Extension Class, Calvary Chapel, Buffalo, MO

May 12-14

Senior Adult Retreat...Clarion Hotel, Springfield, MO

June 1-2

SCM Competitive Activities...Clarion Hotel, Springfield, MO

June 3

MOWAC Annual Convention...Clarion Hotel, Springfield, MO

June 2-4

MOFWB Annual Meeting...Clarion Hotel, Springfield, MO

June 8-13

Teen Camp, Group One

June 15-20

Teen Camp, Group Two

July 20-24

National Association of FWB...Charleston, West Virginia

July 27- August 1

Pre-teen Camp, Group Two

August 3-8

Pre-Teen Camp, Group One

September 11-13

WNAC Retreat...Ridgecrest, North Carolina

September 19-20

MOWAC Retreat...Clarion Hotel, Springfield, MO

November 21-22

State Youth Retreat...Windermere Retreat Center, Roach, MO

Palmer Leadership Extension Class

May 6, 2008

Calvary Chapel, Buffalo

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Being Free Will Baptist in the 21st Century

On the Brink of Post-Christian America

By Jeff Myers

My wife and I had the privilege of taking a dream vacation to Scotland in March of last year. For seven days we drove around (on the wrong side of the road) through the big cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow and on the country roads in the Highlands. I have to say, Scotland is absolutely stunning. The mix of old architecture and the dramatic natural landscapes can at times be overwhelming to the senses. One of my favorite characteristics of the country was its churches. The Scottish know how to build churches! You won't find any pre-fab metal build-

ings or storefront churches. Every church is beautiful in its design. From the towering cathedrals in the cities to the smaller country churches you can tell that the architects were worshipping God through the very design of the each structure.

However, if you know anything about Europe, you know its nations are in the midst of an era known as Post-Christian Europe. "Post-Christian" doesn't mean that Christianity no longer exists in Europe. On the contrary, a respectable percentage of Europe's population would check "CHRISTIAN" on

a survey about personal faith. But the churches are empty and neglected. Many have shut their doors. In fact, of all the churches Jamie and I visited in Scotland, we didn't find one active church! The churches we found were either a) neglected and falling apart, b) treated like museums, or c) no longer churches at all (old churches are often converted into bookstores, theaters, or even pubs!). The Post-Christian era is not about the church becoming extinct – it's about the church becoming irrelevant. The church is used on high holy days, births, weddings, and funerals. But Europeans see the

This article is part three of an examination of our post-modern culture and our response to their unique ways of thinking.

Rosslyn Chapel at Roslin, Midlothian, Scotland.

church as completely irrelevant in their everyday lives.

The sad and scary truth is that most statisticians see the U.S.A. as only about 20 years (or less) from becoming Post-Christian America. Today, young people age 18-29 are almost completely absent from local churches. In years past, college-age students would question faith or rebel against God, experiment sexually (and pharmaceutically). Now it's the high school teens that are assuming that role. High School student ministries are shrinking across the nation. Is it because they don't believe in God? No. Over 90% claim to believe in God. They just don't see how God is important to their daily life.

Is All Hope Gone?

Of course not! As long as Christ is on the throne, there will be hope. The Bible is quite clear, that as long as time marches on, there will be a remnant of faithful followers of Jesus. But as long as I've got breath in my body, I'll not be satisfied with just a remnant. We have the honor and duty of sharing the life-changing good news of Jesus with everyone we can (and as Paul said, "by any means possible"). My two previous articles discussed the post-modern era we are entering and possible responses of the church. The reason this is so important is that our hearts should break at the thought of almost an entire generation going to Hell. So what can we do?

Pray.

Our churches should be in constant prayer for our children and those in our community that are totally disconnected from the church. We should pray for wisdom to know what changes we should and should not make to better communicate the Gospel. We should pray for genuine

relationships with unsaved young people so that we have opportunities to share Jesus. We should pray for life-change in all the age groups of our church. We should pray that God would loosen up some of our old wineskins to make room for the new wine that God will send us when our churches earnestly pray for it.

Dream.

Howard Hendricks said, "When your memories are more exciting than your dreams, you've begun to die." We need churches who burn to see a vibrant future. We need churches with the courage to ask themselves, "If our church shut its doors tomorrow, would our community even notice?" What can your church do to cement a reputation of mercy, compassion, and service in your community. Dream often and dream big!

Learn.

One of my favorite sayings is "leaders are readers". As a leader, when you stop learning it's the beginning of the end. There are so many great resources available on leadership, postmodernism, church health, reaching the unchurched, etc... If you want to lead your congregation into the alien territory of the 21st century - equip yourself properly. Learn as much about the inhabitants of this alien territory as possible and use what you learn to your church's advantage.

There are truly great books out there about new church models and the emerging generations that are both creative and challenging. Are all of them great? Absolutely not! Honestly many books will tell you to adjust your theology and use methods that are not conducive to an atmosphere of worship. But this doesn't mean we need to throw the baby out with the bathwater!

Use good books to give you ideas for changing your methodol-

ogy to better reach the lost. But we have no reason to change our theology. Our doctrine is solid and will stand the test of time no matter what era we find ourselves in. And by all means, don't forget to continue learning from the Scriptures (first and foremost). As you pray for God's direction in this new century, true wisdom only comes with a faith and church-view that is firmly founded in the absolute truth that is found in God's Word. The more you learn the Scripture, the less likely you are to lead your church down a false path.

If you believe the experts, Post-Christian America is coming. The question is will you do everything in your power to stop it or, at least, slow it down? Or will you let fear and/or stubbornness keep you from meeting the enemy in battle? I hope our battle cry is that of Winston Churchill's, "We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender."

Jeff Myers is the former Youth Pastor at First Church in Lebanon, He is married to Jamie and together they enjoy their children, Molly, Isaiah and Isla. He and his family have just assumed a pastorate in California



WMO Coin Banks Available for Distribution

Antioch, TN – Free Will Baptist International Missions recently began distribution of the 2008 Change the World coin banks and DVD.

Now in its third year, the Change the World coin bank program is a component of the World Missions Offering (WMO) received each April. The 2007 goal of \$500,000 was surpassed by more than \$10,000. As a result, missionary accounts received \$2,000 each; and students in Bible institutes in four countries continue their training.

More than 500 churches utilized the coin banks in 2007. "We'd like to see that number increase significantly," stated Barry Simpson, director of development. "In fact,

I'd like to see a coin bank in every Free Will Baptist home in America." The coin bank provides a way for children, teens, families, and seniors on fixed incomes to participate in reaching the world for Christ.

The 2008 WMO goal has been placed at \$750,000. Funds raised in 2008 will continue to support Bible institutes in Cuba, Côte d'Ivoire, Russia, and India, as well as reduce our missionaries' fundraising burden by placing \$5,000 in each account.

In January the Board of International Missions voted to use any funds received over the 2008 WMO goal to expedite the departure of new and stateside missionaries to their fields of service.



Change the World coin banks and DVDs are available by visiting International Missions' website (www.fwbgo.com) or by calling the office's toll-free number, 877-767-7736.

FWBBC Selects Gallatin for New Campus

NASHVILLE, TN – Free Will Baptist Bible College (FWBBC) has selected a 66-acre site in Gallatin on which to build a new campus, according to Relocation Consultant Colonel Mark Johnson. The site is a short 26-minute drive from the college's current campus on West End Avenue. College officials signed a contract on November 19. President Matt Pinson said, "The Board and administration could not be more pleased with the purchase arrangements. We believe that we received an excellent price from the owner for this prime property on which to relocate."

Mark Johnson said, "We looked at over 100 potential sites in Middle Tennessee before signing a contract on this beautiful land in Sumner County just off Vietnam Veterans Boulevard. The land, which is mostly open and flat with a gentle slope, is a portion

of property known as the Franklin Farm which was a Revolutionary War grant." Colonel Johnson assured FWBBC's constituents that freeway accessibility to the new campus site would mirror what the college enjoys in its current location.

President Pinson said, "This property in Gallatin is everything we were looking for in a new campus. It's more than seven times the size of our current campus, which means that we will not have to cap enrollment and curtail new programs. We will have room to construct adequate buildings for instructional needs and to house students." The larger campus site will allow FWBBC to build outdoor sports facilities for students, and provides plenty of parking space for students, staff, and campus guests. In addition, the college can design a campus from the start to fit current and future needs. The site is near medical and

educational resources, surrounded by new housing developments, and is still in the Greater Nashville area. Pinson explained that Sumner County's exploding economy, along with Gallatin's inviting small-city atmosphere, means that the college will have the benefits of the larger Nashville community as well as the charm and convenience of the Gallatin/Hendersonville communities.

"We have been welcomed by city officials and business leaders," he said. "We believe that we've found our new home after searching long and hard for a new campus." Station Camp High School, Knox Doss Middle School, and an elementary school now under construction are located across the street from the new campus site. Volunteer State Community College with its welcoming officials and facilities is two



miles away. The \$18 million Sumner Regional Healthplex-Wellness Center is under construction less than a mile from the campus site, and will be completed in early 2008.

Affordable housing in a wide range of prices is readily available in the area for faculty and staff needs, as well as numerous employment opportunities for students.

President Pinson said that the college originally planned to purchase the Sumner County property in concert with selling its West End Avenue campus in Nashville. However, after the proposed buyer notified the college in March 2007 that he was unable to go forward with the purchase, the college administration and Trustees became convinced of the need to proceed and secure the Gallatin site, even though a timetable for construction start-up on the new campus has not been set.

The college has financing in place to purchase the property, and will be talking with donors and friends about their help in offsetting the cost of the land. "As you can see," Pinson said, "we have a lot of work to do in the next few years. We have our current campus to sell, a new campus to design, buildings to construct, funds to raise, and most important, we have students to teach. Every effort will be made to guarantee an uninterrupted learning experience for our current students and the new students who will enroll over the next few years. The students are and always will be our first concern."

Colonel Johnson said that the college will work with the property owner to satisfy all contractual requirements which will lead to a close and sale of the property.

The decision to relocate the 65-year-old college came in June 2006 following a six-month feasibility study. At that time, college officials projected that it would cost approximately \$30 million to buy land,

build a new campus, and relocate. Dan Downs, property owner and developer, said, "Free Will Baptist Bible College will be an asset to our community providing a Christian education for our future leaders. We are fortunate in Sumner County to have both a two-year community college (Volunteer State) and now a four-year college (Free Will Baptist Bible College)."

Reverend Gene Outland, chairman of the Board of Trustees, said, "This is a great moment for FWBBC. Sixty-five years ago, our fathers walked along Nashville's Richland/West End Avenues and laid the foundation for a dream called Free Will Baptist Bible College. Today, that dream is a reality looking for a new home, a larger home just up the road on 66 acres in Gallatin."

Gallatin Officials Welcome FWBBC

Mayor Jo Ann Graves, City of Gallatin "Gallatin welcomes Free Will Baptist Bible College. This is truly a historic and exciting time for our city and communities around us. FWBBC will bring us a great college with a tremendous, rich tradition of education and community service. It will change our city for the better, and we could not be more pleased."

Dr. Warren Nichols, President, Volunteer State Community College "Volunteer State Community College is in support of Free Will Baptist Bible College's move to the area. We are looking forward to working with the college on educational initiatives and enhancing the lives of the residents of our service area."

Craig Hayes, Councilman "I am extremely excited about Free Will Baptist Bible College coming to Gallatin. It will be a tremendous opportunity for the city and Sumner County. I am excited that the people of Sumner County will be able to attend and complete their education at a four year college without leaving the county. I look forward to working with the faculty and leadership at the college."

2008 Annual Ministers Retreat

March 10-12

**Cross Pointe
Retreat Center
Rocky Mount,
Missouri**

Speaker:
Dr. Randy Sawyer
Pastor
First Free Will Baptist Church
Gastonia, NC



Author of **Regaining Balance: 91 Days of Prayer and Praise**. Devotional journal designed to guide its readers through a season of spiritual revival

The cost is \$85.00 per person double occupancy

Register by calling
1-866-532-6536
or on-line at
www.mofwb.org

Financial Report

Coop Disbursements

January 2008..... **\$83,434.37**

19.00% St HM\$15,852.53
17.00% Exec. Office.....\$14,183.84
3.00% Gen. Fund.....\$2,503.03
8.50% Youth Camp.....\$7,091.93
2.50% Youth Min.....\$2,085.86
2.50% CE\$2,085.86
2.50% Senior Adult.....\$2,085.86
9.00% Mo Retmt.....\$7,509.09
3.00% ShowMe Plan.....\$2,503.03

33.00%\$27,533.34
National Ministries

Total\$83,434.37

Coop Plan

Alton	\$200.00
Amity	\$68.65
Aulsbury Chapel	\$208.81
Bailey.....	\$350.00
Bailey Chapel	\$122.00
Beacon.....	\$185.99
Belton	\$378.80
Berean	\$136.00
Bethel- El Dorado Springs.....	\$255.49
Bethel- Marshfield.....	\$1,012.20
Black Oak	\$651.11
Byrd.....	\$381.23
Cabool 1st.....	\$303.14
Calvary Chapel.....	\$819.00
Cape Girardeau 1st	\$1,230.00
Central	\$942.66
Christ Chapel.....	\$606.00
Clifton	\$56.46
Copper Mines	\$891.48
Cornerstone.....	\$743.43
Crossroads- Wentzville.....	\$787.00
Cuba	\$714.00
De Soto 1st.....	\$1,700.00
Faith.....	\$251.60
Faith & Hope- Aurora	\$195.40
Farmington 1st.....	\$4,056.34
Fellowship.....	\$1,200.00
Fordland	\$580.00
Fourth.....	\$222.66
Fredericktown 1st.....	\$434.00
Freeman Chapel	\$426.80
Generations	\$1,359.96
Grace	\$1,657.61
Grant Avenue	\$1,238.43
Greenfield.....	\$220.00
Hannibal.....	\$920.00
Hannon.....	\$763.00
Harmony	\$678.84
Hartville.....	\$2,704.00
Harvest- Raymore.....	\$259.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$989.81
Hopewell.....	\$601.00
Houston 1st.....	\$286.80
Hurryville.....	\$873.30
Jackson.....	\$226.95
Kings Way	\$386.36
Koshkonong.....	\$105.00
Lead Hill	\$294.78
Leadington	\$593.95
Lebanon 1st.....	\$3,958.95
Lebanon Greenhills.....	\$923.09
Mashfield.....	\$228.02
Merls Chapel.....	\$470.00
Mill Creek.....	\$724.25
Mine La Motte	\$90.37
Monett 1st.....	\$1,448.94
Mtn. Grove 1st.....	\$2,238.98
Myrtle.....	\$686.14
Neosho 1st.....	\$1,177.05
Nevada.....	\$558.00
New Home- Lebanon	\$773.52
New Hope.....	\$606.00
Niangua	\$339.93
Number One	\$188.68
Oak Grove- Mtn. Grove	\$229.90
Oak Hill	\$514.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$3,462.37
Olivet.....	\$517.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$2,172.00
Palabras De Vida Eterna	\$53.77
Park Hills 1st.....	\$747.93
Parkview.....	\$926.00
Pleasant Hill- Thayer.....	\$170.90
Pleasant Home.....	\$316.10
Pleasant Ridge- Thayer	\$133.00
Pleasant Ridge- Urbanna	\$149.00
Potosi 1st.....	\$225.10
Raymondville 1st	\$88.34
Rejoice	\$1,328.72
Republic.....	\$599.14
Richwoods 1st.....	\$1,007.00
Rock Chapel.....	\$436.27
Rolla 1st.....	\$465.00
Salem.....	\$30.00
Seymour.....	\$645.00
Smyrna.....	\$142.00
Springfield 1st.....	\$2,888.29
Stonebridge	\$431.00
Thayer	\$1,616.53
Trinity	\$1,052.56
Union	\$60.00
Union Grove	\$814.00
Union Light.....	\$194.00
United	\$3,745.51
Unity	\$620.00
Verdella	\$1,136.30
Viburnum	\$879.00
Victory- Alton.....	\$882.24
Victory- KC	\$1,175.88
Waynesville 1st.....	\$752.90
West Plains 1st.....	\$1,694.00
Wilderness.....	\$644.60
Willow Springs	\$960.93
Willow Springs 1st.....	\$115.00
Wolf Creek	\$732.13
Total	\$83,434.37

Show-Me Plan

Barker, James	\$15.00
Beacon	\$505.60
Belton	\$145.00
Berean	\$40.00
Berry, Roberta.....	\$15.00
Black Oak	\$180.00
Brown, Angela.....	\$15.00

Burns, Jack.....	\$60.00
Cabool 1st.....	\$105.00
Calvary Chapel.....	\$105.00
Central	\$30.00
Chrisman, Mona.....	\$30.00
Coon Creek.....	\$107.86
Copper Mines	\$185.00
Cornerstone.....	\$461.00
Cross Roads- Lebanon.....	\$150.00
Crossroads- Wentzville	\$50.00
Cuba	\$185.50
De Soto 1st.....	\$762.50
Eastern Gate.....	\$15.00
Faith& Hope- Willow Spng.....	\$45.00
Farmington 1st.....	\$531.00
Fellowship.....	\$925.00
Fordland	\$250.00
Fourth.....	\$108.00
Fredericktown 1st.....	\$180.00
Freeman Chapel	\$720.00
Generations	\$449.83
Grace	\$398.00
Grant Avenue	\$375.00
Greenfield.....	\$120.00
Hannibal.....	\$30.00
Hannon.....	\$2,763.00
Happy Hill	\$120.00
Harmony	\$115.66
Hartville.....	\$480.00
Harvest- Raymore.....	\$50.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$296.94
Hopewell.....	\$30.00
Houston 1st.....	\$166.00
Hurryville.....	\$565.00
Jackson.....	\$50.00
Leadington	\$230.00
Lebanon 1st.....	\$300.00
Lebanon Greenhills.....	\$50.00
Macedonia- Purdy.....	\$7,000.00
Maggart, Roxanne.....	\$200.00
Merls Chapel.....	\$60.00
Mill Creek.....	\$140.00
Mill Creek CWF.....	\$15.00
Mill Creek Young Adult.....	\$15.00
Mine La Motte	\$75.00
MO WAC.....	\$372.54
Monett 1st.....	\$45.00
Mt. Zion- Thayer	\$30.00
Mtn. Grove 1st.....	\$700.00
Myrtle.....	\$150.00
Neosho 1st.....	\$465.00
New Home- Hartville.....	\$210.00
New Home- Lebanon	\$360.00
New Hope	\$300.00
New Life- Monett.....	\$800.00
Number One	\$60.00
Oak Grove- Mtn. Grove	\$242.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$179.81
Olivet.....	\$60.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$34.00
Palabras De Vida Eterna	\$15.00
Park Hills 1st.....	\$224.37
Parkview.....	\$505.00
Pinkerton, Jerry	\$45.00
Pleasant Grove- Anderson.....	\$270.00
Pleasant Hill- Thayer	\$45.00
Pleasant Home.....	\$600.00
Pleasant Ridge- Urbanna	\$50.00
Porter Chapel	\$423.23
Raymondville 1st	\$15.00
Richwoods 1st.....	\$52.50
Rock Chapel.....	\$255.00
Rolla 1st	\$60.00
Southeast Association.....	\$90.00
Springfield 1st.....	\$1,090.00
Thayer	\$286.44
Trinity	\$465.00
Union	\$45.00
Union Light.....	\$225.00
United	\$383.16
Unity	\$75.00
Verdella	\$1,316.30
Viburnum.....	\$85.00
Victory- KC	\$670.00
Walnut Grove	\$15.00
Waynesville 1st.....	\$349.00
Willow Springs	\$200.00
Willow Springs 1st.....	\$45.00
MO Cooperative Plan	2503.03
Total	\$34,427.27

State Home Missions

Berean	\$15.00
Book Store	\$540.00
Copper Mines	\$75.00
Crossroads- Wentzville	\$50.00
De Soto 1st.....	\$110.00
Fordland.....	\$10.00
Grace	\$60.00
Grant Avenue	\$122.92
Heffner, Gary	\$800.00
Lebanon Greenhills.....	\$184.61
Macedonia- Purdy.....	\$200.00
MO WAC.....	\$220.00
Myrtle.....	\$170.00
Neosho 1st.....	\$50.00
Oak Hill	\$15.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$164.83
Ozark 1st.....	\$10.00
Pleasant Ridge- Urbanna	\$20.00
Republic.....	\$25.00
Southeast Association.....	\$90.00
Thayer	\$50.00
United	\$25.00
Unity	\$70.00
Waynesville 1st.....	\$50.00
Total	\$3,127.36

International Missions

Belton	\$50.00
Copper Mines	\$100.00
Cornerstone.....	\$70.00
Cuba	\$70.00
De Soto 1st.....	\$60.00
Farmington 1st.....	\$1,200.00
Generations	\$58.51
Grant Avenue	\$15.00
Hannon.....	\$500.00
Hartville.....	\$90.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$128.98
Houston 1st.....	\$47.50
Mtn. Grove 1st.....	\$101.00
New Testament.....	\$55.00
Olivet.....	\$45.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$25.00
Pleasant Home.....	\$64.76
Rejoice	\$1,120.00
Rolla 1st	\$532.50
Springfield 1st.....	\$272.37
Thayer	\$10.00
Verdella	\$340.89
Total	\$4,956.51

National Home Missions

Beacon	\$30.00
Central	\$115.00
Copper Mines	\$50.00
Cuba	\$109.50
De Soto 1st.....	\$260.00

Farmington 1st.....	\$1,470.93
Fellowship.....	\$1,345.00
Fordland.....	\$105.00
Fourth.....	\$50.00
Fredericktown 1st.....	\$30.00
Grace.....	\$115.00
Grant Avenue.....	\$106.92
Hartville.....	\$60.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$120.00
Houston 1st.....	\$62.50
Hurryville.....	\$100.00
Jackson.....	\$55.00
Lebanon Greenhills.....	\$400.00
Macedonia- Purdy.....	\$631.00
Merls Chapel.....	\$50.00
Monett 1st.....	\$885.00
Mtn. Grove 1st.....	\$70.00
Neosho 1st.....	\$125.00
New Life- Monett.....	\$200.00
New Testament.....	\$75.00
Oak Hill.....	\$70.00
O'Fallon 1st.....	\$214.83
Olivet.....	\$60.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$698.00
Park Hills 1st.....	\$84.79
Rader, Jerry.....	\$20.00
Richwoods 1st.....	\$62.00
Rock Chapel.....	\$97.00
Rolla 1st.....	\$562.50
Thayer.....	\$130.00
Trinity.....	\$40.00
Union Light.....	\$96.00
United.....	\$155.00
Unity.....	\$90.00
Verdella.....	\$10.00
Victory- KC.....	\$30.00
Waynesville 1st.....	\$238.25
West Plains 1st.....	\$465.00
Total.....	\$9,744.22

Designated Giving

Berea Ministries

Hartville.....	\$150.00
Jackson.....	\$15.00
Farmington 1st.....	\$100.00
Hartville.....	\$150.00
Total.....	\$415.00

Victor Torrez

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

Brazil Project

Verdella.....	\$255.10
Total.....	\$255.10

Trula Cronk Childrens Home

Hartville.....	\$50.00
Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$20.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$49.49
Unity.....	\$20.00
Desoto 1st.....	\$55.00
Waynesville 1st.....	\$400.00
Myrtle.....	\$35.00
New Hope.....	\$50.00
Belton.....	\$25.00
Hannon.....	\$100.00
New Life-Monett.....	\$765.13
New Hope.....	\$50.00

Union Light.....	\$20.00
Grace.....	\$33.00
Hartville.....	\$50.00
Myrtle.....	\$25.00
Total.....	\$1,747.62

C. E. Board

Book Store.....	\$140.00
Total.....	\$140.00

Free Will Baptist Bible Collge

Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$165.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$49.49
Desoto 1st.....	\$40.00
Thayer.....	\$50.00
Beacon.....	\$59.30
Fellowship-Park Hills.....	\$10.00
Hopewell.....	\$10.00
Total.....	\$383.79

Hillsdale

Grant Avenue.....	\$25.00
Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$170.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$49.49
Farmington 1st.....	\$100.00
Farmington 1st.....	\$25.00
Thayer.....	\$50.00
Beacon.....	\$61.30
Generations.....	\$143.15
Total.....	\$623.94

Missouri Retirement

Book Store.....	\$200.00
Total.....	\$200.00

Senior Adult Board

Book Store.....	\$140.00
Total.....	\$140.00

Urban Impact

Verdella.....	\$578.15
Total.....	\$578.15

Youth Camp

Hartville.....	\$10.00
Book Store.....	\$540.00
Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$50.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$98.98
Desoto 1st.....	\$55.00
Thayer.....	\$50.00
West Plains 1st.....	\$25.00
Cornerstone.....	\$100.00
Niangua.....	\$25.00
Rock Chapel.....	\$19.00
Rolla 1st.....	\$40.00
Willow Springs.....	\$50.00
Berean.....	\$15.00
New Life-Monett.....	\$765.13
Ozark 1st.....	\$10.00
Trinity.....	\$9.00
Verdella.....	\$10.00
Union.....	\$30.00
Faith- Fair Grove.....	\$242.76
Hartville.....	\$10.00
Willow Springs.....	\$50.00
Niangua.....	\$25.00
Total.....	\$2,229.87

Youth Camp Development

West Plains 1st.....	\$200.00
Myrtle.....	\$65.00
Hannon.....	\$100.00
Oak Hill.....	\$15.00
Myrtle.....	\$47.00
Total.....	\$427.00

Youth Ministries Board

Book Store.....	\$140.00
Total.....	\$140.00

YWAM

Belton.....	\$25.00
Total.....	\$25.00

**Total January
Giving:
\$151,025.61**

**Funds to date:
01/31/08
Cooperative Plan:
\$83,434.37
Show-Me Plan
\$31,924.61**

Available Churches

The following churches are looking for a pastor. If your church is available, please let us know in the Gem office and we will gladly list your contact information. If your church is listed and finds a pastor, please let us know to remove your listing.

King's Way Church

Springfield, MO

Contact:

Everett Sawyer

417-582-1354

417-209-6726

First Church

Cape Girardeau, MO

Contact:

Don Gregory

573-339-0797

or

Dave Lane

573-334-1106



11th Annual Men's Rally

Ozark First Church

Friday, April 25th

Meal at 5:30pm

Worship at 6:45pm

Speaker:

Rev. Stanley Jones,
Pastor,
Rock Chapel Church



Missouri State Association
of Free Will Baptists
202 West Commercial
PO Box 991
Lebanon, MO 65536

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