



GEM

Missouri Free Will Baptist

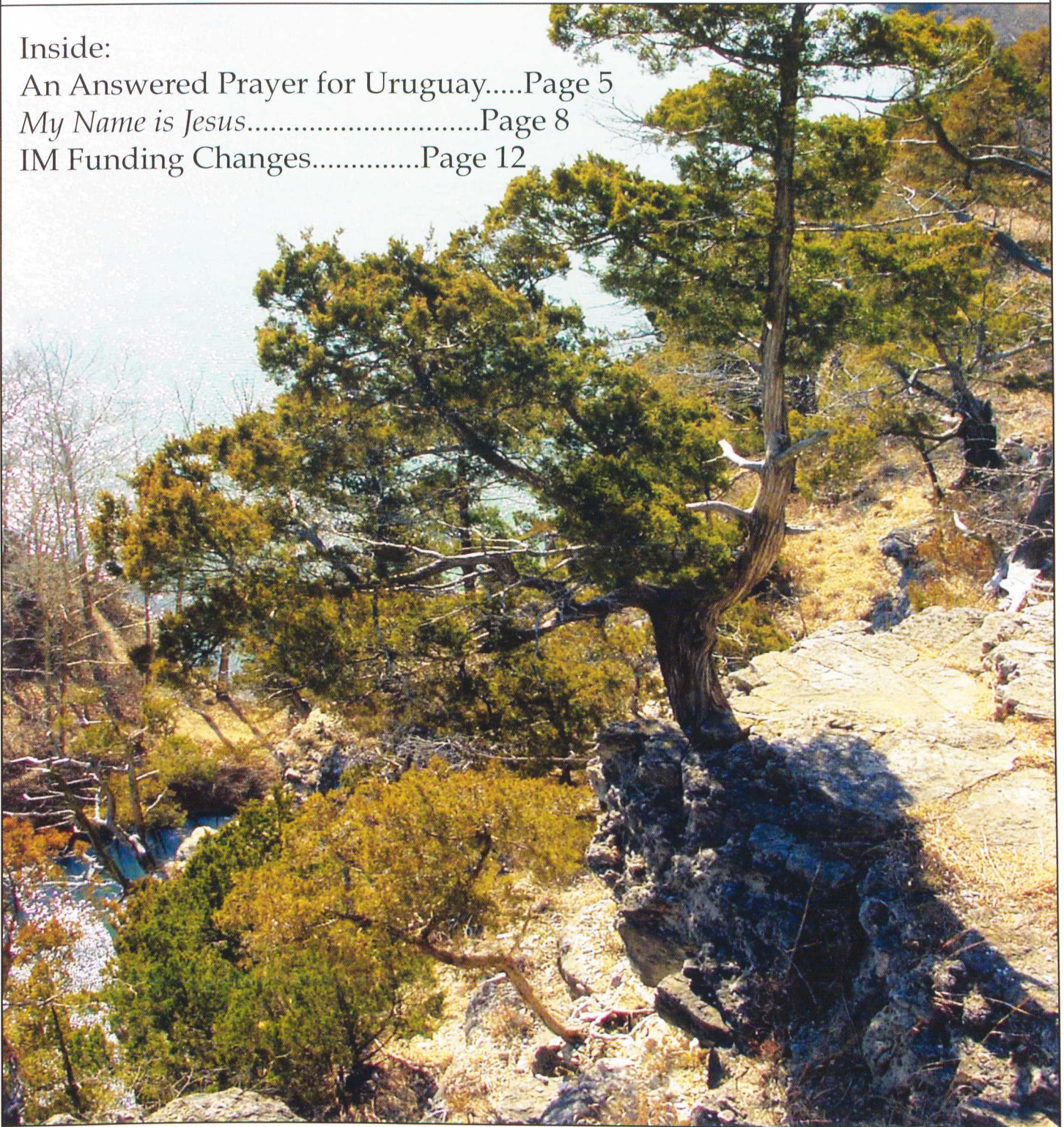
Magazine

Inside:

An Answered Prayer for Uruguay.....Page 5

My Name is Jesus.....Page 8

IM Funding Changes.....Page 12



Volume 79 / Number 6 / June, 2008

In this issue:

From the Editor..... Page 3

Missouri Show-Me Missions:

Blessed be the Co-Workers..... Page 4

An Answered Prayer for Uruguay Page 5

Ivorians Celebrate 50 Years Page 6

Across the State:

Missouri Life Page 7

The Bivens Report..... Page 8

Ozark Men's Rally Page 8

Lebanon Women's Retreat..... Page 9

He Said, "My Name is Jesus"..... Page 9

Desoto Joy Makers..... Page 10

MOWAC Retreat Information..... Page 11

IM Restructures Funding System Page 12

College News Page 13

April Financial Report Page 14

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.

Business Office:
202 West Commercial,
P.O. Box 991,
Lebanon, Missouri 65536,
Gary Fry, Editor.

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

On May 11, the Epiphany Community Unitarian Universalist Church of Fenton, Michigan, featured a Zen Buddhist with a Christian background to be the preacher that day *"so that we can experience the similarities of our faith paths,"* according to Anne Lerche pastor.

That story on the Religion News Service caught my eye. The article that followed listed several other churches around the country that would be celebrating Pluralism Sunday. That's a day sponsored by The Center for Progressive Christianity, a network of over 5000 affiliates and nearly 400 churches nationwide which have adopted a "Welcome Statement" that affirms that other religions can be as good for their followers as Christianity is for Christians. Churches in Australia, New Zealand and Britain also participated in Pluralism Sunday. *"We do not claim that our religion is superior to all others. Instead, we celebrate that we can grow closer to God and grow deeper in compassion, and we can understand our own traditions better, through a deeper awareness of the world's religions,"* says Rev. Jim Burklo, the event's national coordinator.

Huh? As I visited the website for the Center for Progressive Christianity I discovered they offered a wealth of resources if I should choose to participate in their noble cause. Sermon topics like "Living Buddha, Living Christ," "Jesus and Mohammed," and the classic sounding "Hinduism and Christianity, A Fine Balance," (although disappointingly the link to that one was not working.) There were several websites full of worship resources and even some for

children. These were all directed toward helping us understand that our "religion is not superior to all others." Now I don't have a bit of trouble doubting that statement is true of both Mr. Burklo and all the other contributors to his website and even all those churches who celebrated Pluralism Sunday. In fact, their religion sounds like it is not superior to anything. In reading one of the above mentioned sermons I found this jewel . . . *"Jesus said, 'I and the Father are one.' A Japanese Zen master said, 'The Buddha and all sentient beings are not two.' Thich Nhat Hanh said, 'Buddhism is made of non-Buddhist elements. Buddhism has no separate self. When you are truly a happy Christian, you are also a Buddhist. And vice versa. I guess that would make all Buddhists 'truly happy Christians?'"*

Please excuse my rant. This kind of stuff just makes me angry. When Jim Burklo, director of the Center for Progressive Christianity says that his religion is not superior to any other, he is speaking the truth. Religion covers a broad territory and can be a belief in anything. But later in his blather when he says that Christianity is not superior, I take exception. The world is full of religions, all teaching that they can take you to come kind of higher existence or enlightenment. They all promise they are the pathway to god, whomever or whatever he might be. Yet, there is only one belief system that is based on a person rather than a teaching. Others may promise to show you a way to eternity, Christ leads you there.

A uniqueness of Christianity is that Jesus is radically different than Buddha or Mohammed or

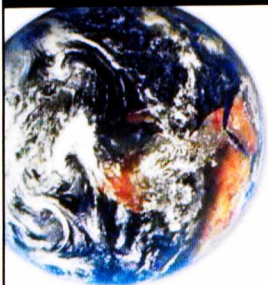


Joseph Smith. He is the only one who said/says He was/is God and proved/proves it. He is the only one who died on a cross for the sins of the world and rose from the dead three day later. He is the only one who ascended to the Father in heaven and is coming back again for his faithful. All the others are still dead in the grave. They are nothing but bones now while Jesus is alive and well and coming again. For years Satan has stirred men to look for ways to discredit Him. From denials of His death and resurrection to the assertion that He was married and had children, men have sought to destroy God's claim on them. They seem to think if they could "prove" that God was not real, they could live anyway they wanted with no consequence. The Devil is even using folks like those at the Center for Progressive Christianity to put forth the lie that Jesus is no different than any other world religion founder.

You know, I really feel sorry for those folks and all others like them, people who talk about Jesus but don't know Him. They read and preach and discuss and sing about Him, but they do not have a personal relationship with the only one who can save their eternal souls and take them to heaven when they die. Jesus said, *"I am the way, the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me."*

I am not sure how the service at the Epiphany Community Unitarian Universalist Church of Fenton, Michigan went on May 11, but I am pretty sure that no one met Jesus as their personal savior that day.

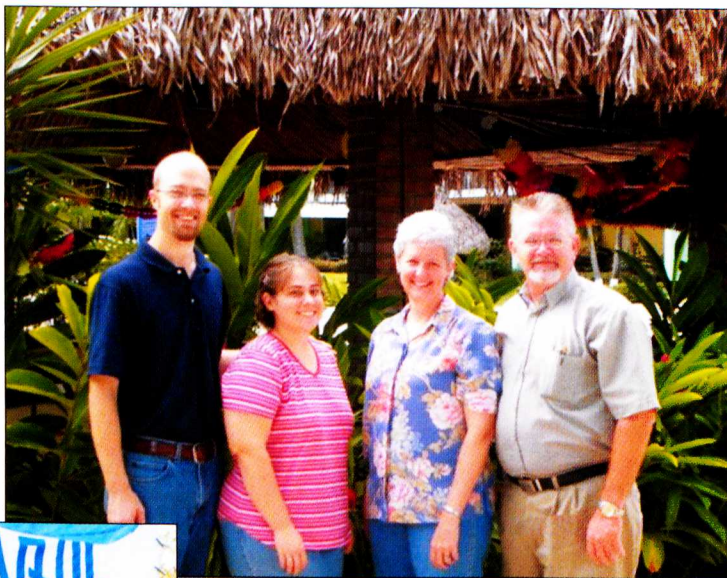
Missouri Show-Me Missions



Blessed be the Co-Workers, for They Shall Lighten the Load

When Brenda and I first began a ministry in the interior of Panama in 1986 we were basically alone as North Americans in the church planting ministry. Our first eighteen months were spent in the Las Tablas FWB Church. During that time we would travel to the small town of Parita and meet with a small group of believers. In the fall of 1987 we moved to Chitre, and began working full time in Parita with the goal of installing a national pastor as soon as possible. That goal would take several years to realize.

Once a pastor was installed in Parita we were free to begin a ministry in Chitre which was our goal since the beginning. We had



Steve and Lori Torrison, Brenda and Stan Bunch



Baptismal Service

contact with the children in the area as well as their parents. Many of our teen leaders presently, were small children when we started the Bible Club. Several of our adult leaders are parents who were saved as a result of the ministry to their children. Such contacts which were made prior to the official beginning of the Good News FWB Church in Chitre have proven extremely valuable.

During those first 20 years we were pretty much on our own as missionaries in the interior. When we started the Good News Church, the congregation was a handful of inexperienced and new Christians. Every thing that was done was our responsibility. We quickly began to appoint people to take over certain aspects of the ministry.

In 2006, Steve and Lori Torrison came to minister in Panama. All new missionaries in Panama must



Pouring concrete for addition to building

worked in various social and Christian outreaches in our neighborhood since we moved there. Stan was president of the "Sewer Committee". Not a very glamorous job but one that gave us contact with city officials and a good relationship and trust with all of our neighbors. The Good News Bible Club gave us

work alongside another missionary couple, at least during their first term of service. Steve plays the guitar for our services. He and Lori also teach and work with the youth, lead a cell group and are developing youth leaders to replace them. Both are involved in the men's and ladies groups of the church and have an extremely vital ministry.

For two decades Brenda and I worked alone as a church planting missionary couple. Now, for the last two years we have worked with another missionary couple who have come alongside us and use their gifts and talents in the church planting ministry. Having another couple with musical and youth leadership abilities has proven to be a huge asset to the ministry. As we look toward future church planting ministries in Panama we will most definitely want to give priority to the possibility of sending out teams of missionaries.

As a team in Chitre, we meet regularly to plan, pray and discuss the ministry. There is mutual encouragement, correction and challenges that take place. All of us are working to develop national leadership that will serve as our replacements in the future.

After having served as 'solo' missionaries for several years and now, after having had the privilege of working in tandem with another missionary couple I can say, "Blessed are the co-workers, for they shall lighten the load."

Thank you for your prayers and support for the ministry in Panama.

Blessings and Grace to you,
Stanley & Brenda Bunch

An Answered Prayer For Uruguay

There is a Missouri sized country in the continent of South America that is cupped between Brazil to its East and Argentina to its West. This beautiful land of beef, sheep and tourism has a population of only 3.3 million which gives Uruguay a very open and peaceful setting that would make most Americans envious.



Kendra, Deacon and David Dodson

In this mainly agricultural country the city of Montevideo stands as a shining port on the South Atlantic Ocean which holds half of the population of that country. But even in the "big city" the laid back, time-takes-care-of-itself Uruguayan attitude is prevalent. Another dominant mindset among these good people is to be "non-religious" or Atheists. Over one-third of them have this very dangerous view of eternal life. Most of those who do not share that view claim to be Roman Catholic but very few of those make that religion a regular part of their lives.

This awareness has caused our current FWB missionaries Molly Barker and Jamie & Tammie Lancaster to cry out for God to send more workers into this vast and ripe field. The prayer has been for the Truth to be sent into the large capitol city of Montevideo so that God could not only let the Truth be spread, but that the false teachings of the Mormons and Muslims would not get a foot hold in the minds of the people. The last few days of April of this year began the answer to those prayers. Two couples among the eight new appointees have been given Career Missionary status by our International Missions Department in Nashville and they were directed to take the Gospel to the city of Montevideo.

One of those couples that are being sent to Montevideo, Uruguay is David & Kendra Dodson who recently have been ministering in the Calvary Fellowship church in Fenton, MO. David is the son of Ken & Paula Dodson who are currently pastoring in Monett, MO and Kendra comes to us from the state of Tennessee. They, as well as, their 2 yr-old son Deacon, are starting their deputation period and are looking for prayerful and financial support to get them to Uruguay as soon as possible.

If you would like to have this couple come to your church or Association to hear more about how God is working and preparing future blessings in Uruguay please contact them quickly at 314 488-6328 / or call our Missions Department at 417 532-6537 or 417 288-2441 for our Missouri Missions Directors cell phone.

Côte d'Ivoire Free Will Baptists Celebrate 50 Years!

Jerry and Carol Pinkerton
Honored for their years
of faithful service



Procession into the stadium



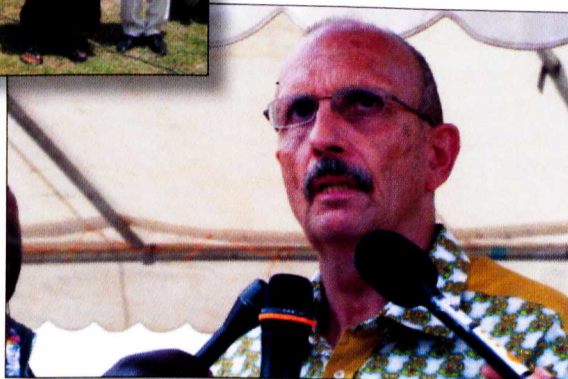
Ivorian escorts and part
of the crowd



Former missionary
Jimmy Aldridge
and Elders Honored



Jerry Pinkerton preaching
at the 50th



On Saturday, March 22, more than 1,000 people gathered in the professional soccer stadium in Bondoukou to celebrate 50 years of God's blessing. A specially-appointed committee planned the event which included a time of singing and worship, a historical overview, a message from retiring missionary Jerry Pinkerton, and special recognitions.

Several hundred worshippers formed a procession from the city center to the stadium. Many were adorned in outfits made from the commemorative cloth designed specifically for the "Cinquante" (50th Anniversary).

The celebration was attended by several dignitaries including the regional governor and local mayor. A special tent was set up for current and former missionaries as well as Free Will Baptist pastors. Another tent was designated for elders and special guests.

The national church expressed great appreciation to the missionaries who have served in the country and prepared a special framed certificate for every current and former missionary. Free Will Baptist International Missions also honored missionaries as well as ordained and licensed pastors.

According to Director of Field Operations Steve Lytle, "The event was moving, well organized, and beautifully hosted. It was a tribute to the faithfulness of our pioneer and current missionaries. And, it provided a wonderful affirmation of the capability of our national leadership."

After the celebration, the entire crowd moved across the street to the Free Will Baptist church where all were efficiently served a delicious meal by the Ivorian women's group.

*Reprinted from www.fwbgo.com
for additional photos please visit site*

Missouri Life....

Baptism at Neosho

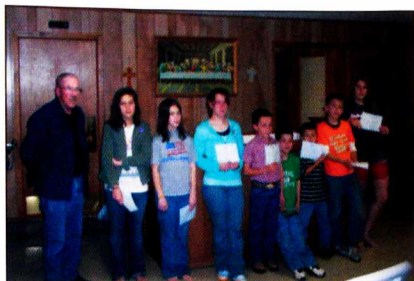


Pastor Mike Bevis writes,

Thought I would send you a couple of pictures of our Baptism we had in the April 13th evening service.

We had 9 people altogether!! Three of them were saved at camp this past year, 2 others had been saved in recent years and wanted to follow up with baptism, 4 others were recently saved, one of those being my own Dad, Johnny Bevis!!!

Praise God!!



From left to right
Johnny Bevis, Lizzy Guild, Jamie Ferguson, Erin Ferguson, Michael Shilling, Zebadiah House, Terrance Pinkney, Justin Guild, Tiffany Guild

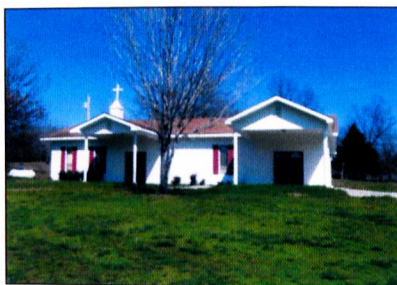
Easter at Lingo



The Lingo Freewill Baptist Church near Doniphan, Missouri, recently celebrated Easter Sunday by enjoying an early breakfast of eggs, sausage, bacon, juice, pancakes, and all the fixin's. Even the children enjoyed the breakfast as well as the egg hunt which followed. As you can see, everyone was dressed in their Easter finest, even though the temperatures were quite cool. This is the first Easter Sunday enjoyed in the new fellowship hall.



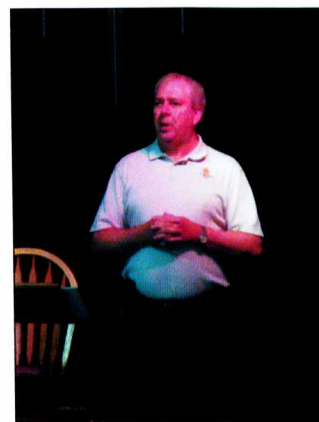
The church was given a new look on the exterior and remodeled somewhat inside. Lingo has been in existence at the present location for 30 years. We are proud of our church and are thankful to God for blessing our congregation and community these many years. We, along with our pastor, Brother Bill McClintock, welcome you to come worship with us at any time. We are located on highway 142 just west of Doniphan, Missouri. We worship at 10:00 on Sunday morning at 6:00 in the evening.



Palmer Leadership Extension



Calvary Chapel in Buffalo was the site for the first Palmer Leadership Institute extension class. On May 5th, 25 men from our state gathered for a session taught by Dr. Doug Earls entitled *Discipleship, God's Way of Developing Leaders*. As usual in our Leadership Institute gatherings, the teaching, fellowship and food was great. Our thanks to Dr. Earls and his staff for making our day at Calvary Chapel profitable and enjoyable. This was the first of what is planned to be yearly extension classes for any of our pastors of the state. This fall our PLI training courses will go national as Dr. Earls trains state leaders in Nashville for upcoming sessions in their states. Please pray for the continued success of this effort.



The Bivens Report



Morelos, Coahuila, Mexico. April 16th Missionary Bud Bivens and pastor ""Danny Phillips, Airport FWB Church in Tulsa, finished their 3rd annual Walk-a-thon. The good friends completed the 100K walk in three days walking in and around the city of Morelos. As they walked Bivens said they "solved the problems of the world and met some very interesting people. "

The purpose of this hike is to raise operational funds for the IBLAC Bible Institute in Altamira and the Getsemani Children's Home in Morelos. Donations and pledges for the walk will be split 50/50 between the two ministries. Bud and his wife Ruth, lay missionaries, have been back in Mexico for nearly three years. They previously served under National Home Missions for three years at the Seminary of the Cross in

Reynosa, five years in Puerto Rico, and then three years under the MO State Mission Board establishing a Hispanic work in Monett MO.

Leaving that work in the capable hands of one of their former students Bro. Fermin Sanchez, they retired and returned to Mexico at the request of the local pastors, supported by a Government Grant called Social Security. They raised funds and enabled the re-opening of the Bible Institute which had been closed in '96 when the Seminary opened in Reynosa. The students are finishing their 4th semester. The Bivens are frequently on the road raising money for the school and traveling in Mexico encouraging young people to come study.

The Bivens have served as teachers, counselors, E-TEAM hosts, gardeners, builders, tour guides and live-in grand-parents. There are nine

full time "boarding" students and 30 night students. At the current student body level it costs \$500 a week to cover all expenses.

The Gethsemani Children's Home was founded by the Bivens' son John and his wife Paulina after they had served 4 1/2 years in the Piedras Negras Children's home. They currently have 23 children and three elderly people. Their goal is to provide family style care for the children who come to them through the Department of Family. Currently two homes are open, two other houses are awaiting staff, a duplex for the elderly is being completed, and a 5th house will eventually be built. They have a large garden, cows, pigs, chickens and rabbits all for the table. They ask for prayer for wisdom in dealing with the children who arrive from homes of terrible abuse and neglect, and for workers, native Spanish speakers, who are truly called by the Lord to the ministry of loving and caring for children.

To contact the Bivens, or support the Walk-a-thon, write: Rainbow Ministries Tu Projimo, PO Box 681, Pharr TX 78577, or e-mail ina-bivens@sbcglobal.net

Men's Rally!

Over 250 men from all across the state crowded into the sanctuary of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Ozark on April 25th for their annual Men's Rally. Men began gathering at 5:30 for the great barbeque and stayed to hear Rev. Stanley Jones preach. Stanley is the pastor of the Rock Chapel Church at Norwood. He did an outstanding job of challenging us from God's word. The service was made even better with lots of great music including several special songs by the Men's Quartet from the church and David Latimer. It was great to have home missionary Nate Alton present. Our thanks to Pastor Gary Michener, Greg Smith and all the folks at Ozark First for giving us the wonderful opportunity!



Lebanon Women's Retreat

The women of First Church in Lebanon held their first women's retreat on April 18 & 19 in Springfield. Twenty-seven women enjoyed food, fun and fellowship that weekend.

A special treat was hearing Becky Derby share her testimony of God's grace and faithfulness in her life. She touched our hearts with her faith and love for our amazing God! There was not a dry eye in the meeting room that morning as we followed her talk with prayer and praise. We are so thankful that she came to be with us!

We all went away from the retreat feeling refreshed and renewed in our walk with our Savior! We give all the glory to God for what He did for the women of First Church on the retreat!

-Julie Wilson



He said, "My Name is Jesus."

by Dr. Alton Loveless

I was boarding a plane in Nashville, Tennessee for a trip to Mexico to present books and Sunday school material we had printed into Spanish to a denominational convention.

As I entered the aisle of seats, I looked down to see where I would be seated. Immediately I saw I would be sitting next to a long haired bearded fellow who was looking out the window.

I said to myself now Alton you are not prejudice, why are you thinking "I thought that went out in the 60's." Finally, I sat down as he continued to look outward. Well, I was looking this guy over pretty good. His hair was well kept and his beard well trimmed and the suit better than the one I was wearing. However, I could not get his lifestyle out of my wondering mind.

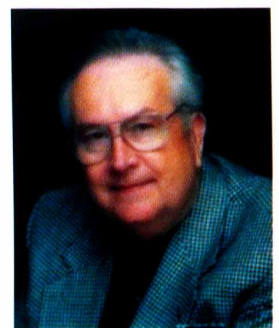
As the airplane started it's takeout and ascent into the sky, he looked over at me and without thinking I reached ut my hand to shake his and said "my name is Alton Loveless!" His response to me took me back suddenly when he said, 'How are you Mr. Loveless? My name is Jesus." Now I have been surprised before, but never like this. Then He saw my composure had changed drastically and said, "No my name is Randy Brooks and I play the part of Jesus Christ in a passion play near Ft. Worth ." That guy could not stop communicating with me about his part in the production and the person of whom he played. He witnessed to me all the way to Texas where I changed planes.

What a lesson I was taught that day. A Minister too good to talk to a person just because of the way he looked. Until that day I had never been that way before. I have

learned that none of us look alike, but all of us have a soul that needs to be redeemed. Our race or dress may be different but to the Lord there is none.

Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

Dr. Alton Loveless is a former CEO/President of Randall House Publications and lives in Farmington, MO His articles appear regularly in regional newspapers in South Missouri in the column Monday Moments. They may be read at altonloveless.blogspot.com



Desoto Joy Makers

The Joy Makers is an organization made up of the ladies at the DeSoto First Free Will Baptist Church. We are a part of the WAC (Women Active for Christ). We focus on First Free Will Baptist Missions by supporting financially through fundraising and spiritually through prayer.

Another main focus of our ministry is to reach out to the elderly, needy, and handicapped in our community. At Christmas, the Joy Makers help out with gifts for needy families. Throughout the year, Joy Makers "adopt" a Special Friend in the church or community and shower them with God's love.

Four banquets are held in honor of our Special Friends each year. Banquet Services begin at 11 a.m. with a luncheon immediately following. Easter baskets are given out at Easter, presents at Christmas, and special baskets are made at Thanksgiving for the widows and widowers. Individual visits are made throughout the year to show that our Special Friends are loved and cared about.

We also have a Special Friends' Sunday each year. This year, during our Sunday morning service, on April 13, we brought our Special Friends from the community and area nursing homes in for a

service where they were honored with a special bookmark and flower.

The song, "Friends are Friends Forever," was sung by a group of adults who had sang the song as teenagers in our church years ago. One of our special ladies, Sister Jean Lewis, who hasn't been able to come to church for quite a while because of her health, was brought by her family and she sang a special with her son that touched the hearts of those in the congregation. A special power point/picture presentation was shown featuring our Friends and Joy Makers.

Our pastor preached an excellent sermon on friendship, which reminded us that we have no greater friend than our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Directly after the service, a luncheon was served for all who could stay. It was a good day in the Lord!

If your church is interested in finding out more about this type of program and how to get started, please



The Joy Makers



Christmas activities



Joy Maker leaders at Easter

contact our Director, Mary White, at 636-586-3548 or our Co-Director, Judy Hoggard, at 636-937-8595.

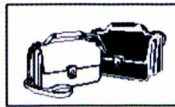
PRE-REGISTRATION ALERT:

If you pre-registered for the National Convention either on-line or mail in and have not received a letter of confirmation, then you are not officially registered.

Please call the Executive Office for more information at:

1-877-767-7659.

MISSOURI WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST
2008 RETREAT
September 19-20, 2008
The Clarion Hotel
Springfield, Missouri



THEME: "What Not to Wear"

"....And above all these things, put on charity..."
 (Colossians 3:12-14)

Special Speaker: Diane Thomas Bridgman

*Start planning **now** to attend the 2008 Retreat on September 19 and 20. The retreat will be at the Clarion in Springfield, Missouri. The motel rooms, conference room, breakfast and Friday evening supper will be in the same building.*

MOTEL RESERVATIONS: The room rate will be \$81.92, which includes taxes and Saturday's breakfast. The maximum number of people per room is four. You will make your own reservations with the Clarion. Call 1-417-883-6550. Be sure to tell them you are with Missouri Women Active for Christ (WAC) to get this special room rate.

The following is a breakdown of the cost of your room based on the number of people in the room:

4 People: \$20.48 each	2 People: \$40.96 each
3 People: \$27.30 each	1 Person: \$81.92

RETREAT REGISTRATION: The retreat registration fee is \$50.00, which includes Friday's supper and all retreat activities. **EVERYONE MUST REGISTER FOR THE RETREAT.** To register for the retreat, complete the form below and send to Lee Ann Wilfong at the address below, listing each lady attending the retreat. Add a sheet if additional spaces are needed. Make checks payable to "Missouri Women Active for Christ."

REGISTRATION BEGINS JUNE 10, 2008 THROUGH AUGUST 18, 2008 (After August 18, there will be an additional \$10.00 fee.) We will not accept registration unless the full amount is paid with the registration.

RETREAT PROJECT: "20/20/20 Building One Brick at a Time".

Let's be a part of helping W.N.A.C. reach their goal of \$60,000.00 in honor of Retiring WNAC Executive Secretary, Marjorie Workman. (\$20,000 for Building Church in Spain, \$20,000 for W.N.A.C, Endowment Fund and \$20,000 for Panama) Each local is requested to bring as many "bricks" (checkbook boxes or equivalent decorated like bricks) as you can with \$25.00 in each brick. Let's see how many bricks we can lay for building God's Kingdom!

Ladies, this is our special time away from our daily duties. We want to spiritually refocus ourselves on God. We know you love your children and we do too; but we ask that out of consideration for others, please do not bring your children to the retreat.

MISSOURI WAC RETREAT REGISTRATION

Church Name: _____

Name of Each Lady Attending Retreat: _____

Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____

(Use additional page if necessary.)

Email Address: _____

BEFORE 8-18-08: _____ (Number of Ladies Listed) x \$50. 00 (Registration Fee) = \$ _____ Enclosed

AFTER 8-18-08: _____ (Number of Ladies Listed) x \$60.00 (Registration Fee) = \$ _____ Enclosed

RETURN TO: LEE ANN WILFONG, 401 ROCK STREET, PARK HILLS, MO 63601

International Missions Board Votes to Restructure Funding System

Antioch, TN — In a historic act, the Board of International Missions voted unanimously this week to implement a new funding structure. This action is a result of more than two years of research, study, and planning.

"We are thrilled with this decision," said board chairman Danny Williams. "Free Will Baptists are committed to the Great Commission and the way we fund our missionary effort is nothing more than a tool to help us reach people and plant churches. We believe the new plan will be a better tool than our current overburdened and complex system."

"The most basic component of the new funding system," according to General Director James Forlines, "is the Global Evangelism Fund." This undesignated fund will be set up to underwrite the basic costs to keep every Free Will Baptist missionary on the field.

"No longer will we ask missionaries to travel all over the country to raise their own funds for their own accounts," Director of Development Barry Simpson rejoiced. "Now, all of us will work together to help all of our called and approved missionaries get to, and stay on, their fields of service."

Highlights of the plan include:

- An undesignated Global Evangelism Fund established to pay all the costs of keeping all missionaries on their fields.

- The Global Evangelism Fund will be underwritten by contributions to the World Missions Offering, church giving, and individual undesignated contributions.

- Every FWBIM missionary will also have a designated ministry and project fund to underwrite the cost of field ministry.

- Each missionary's ministry and project fund will be underwritten by a limited number of strategic partner churches (or groups of churches).

- Any designated contributions to a missionary will be placed in the designated missionary's ministry and project account.

- An annual analysis of ministry and project accounts will be conducted and reconciled as follows:

- Any deficit in underfunded accounts will be offset by funds transferred from the Global Evangelism Fund.

- Any surplus in overfunded accounts will be transferred into the Global Evangelism Fund.

- A Board-enforced limit on the percentage of income allocated to administrative expenditures.

- The plan will be implemented January 1, 2010.

- All designated funds received prior to implementation will be used as designated.

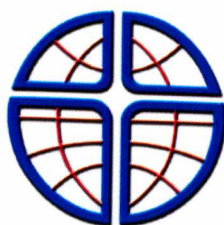
In advance of implementation of the new funding system, the IM board has directed the staff and missionaries to undertake a campaign to inform Free Will Baptist people of the details and implications of the new system.

"Our friends and supporters can expect to see information in receipt letters, in ONE Magazine, on the International Missions website and in special communications to pastors and churches," explains Mark McPeak, director of communications.

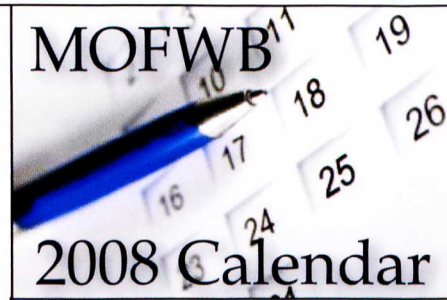
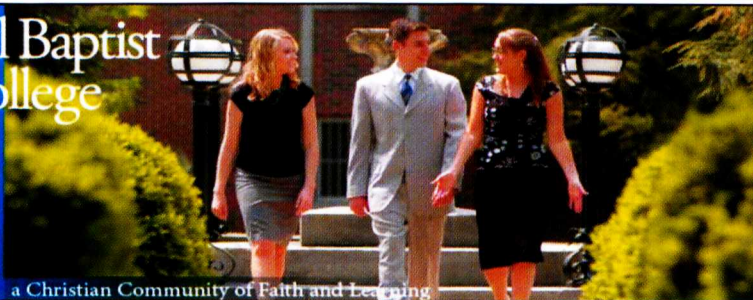
Randy Wilson, vice-chairman of the International Missions Board says, "We believe this plan is needed to help us broaden the base of support so we can send more missionaries and work with our maturing national churches." Wilson adds, "The Board is excited about a plan that can include every Free Will Baptist and allows all of us to support every one of our missionaries."

The Board prayerfully asks all Free Will Baptists to help make the new funding system a success.

For more information on the proposed restructure, visit the Mission's website (www.fwbgo.com) and access funding on the home page.



FREE WILL BAPTIST
INTERNATIONAL
MISSIONS



FWBBC Students Elect 2008-2009 Officers

NASHVILLE, TN – The following five students at Free Will Baptist Bible College were elected to serve as 2008-2009 student body officers: Brett Inman, junior English major from Phillipsburg, Missouri, was elected president. (Bret is the son of David and Renee Inman) The vice president is sophomore Kurston Ward, a Teacher Education major

from Van Buren, Arkansas. Teddie Collier, a junior music performance major from Springfield, Missouri, will serve as secretary-treasurer. (Teddie is the daughter of Ted and Karen Collier) Sophomore Jason McMillion, a youth ministry major from Aberdeen, Maryland, was elected chaplain and will provide spiritual leadership

for the student body. Junior music major Brittany Craft from Pryor, Oklahoma, will serve as worship leader.



PHOTO (L-R): Brittany Craft, Jason McMillion, Kurston Ward, Brett Inman, Teddie Collier.

June 1-2

SCM Competitive Activities...
Clarion Hotel, Springfield

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

Caleb Dement to Teach in Tokoyo

Caleb Dement of First FWB, O'Fallon, Missouri, is a 2008 graduate of FWBBC with a degree in missions. He has been approved by the board of our International Missions Department for a two-year term teaching English in Tokyo, Japan. Caleb is the son of Pastor Rick and Jamie Dement.



Financial Report

Coop Disbursements

April 2008..... **\$81,954.45**

19.00% St HM\$15,571.38
17.00% Exec. Office.....\$13,932.25
3.00% Gen. Fund.....\$2,458.63
8.50% Youth Camp.....\$6,966.12
2.50% Youth Min.....\$2,048.86
2.50% CE.....\$2,048.86
2.50% Senior Adult.....\$2,048.86
9.00% Mo Retmt.....\$7,375.90
3.00% ShowMe Plan.....\$2,458.63

33.00%\$27,044.96
National Ministries

Total\$81,954.45

Coop Plan

Alton	\$200.00
Amity	\$143.90
Aulsbury Chapel.....	\$308.38
Bailey	\$351.00
Bailey Chapel.....	\$176.00
Beacon.....	\$1,462.34
Belton	\$394.13
Bethel- El Dorado Springs.....	\$260.21
Bethel- Marshfield.....	\$747.11
Black Oak.....	\$909.74
Byrd	\$387.10
Cabool 1st.....	\$293.29
Calvary Chapel.....	\$983.93
Calvary Fellowship.....	\$1,250.00
Cape Girardeau 1st.....	\$617.00
Carthage	\$303.64
Central	\$2,914.16
Christ Chapel.....	\$917.00
Clifton	\$59.36
Copper Mines	\$894.60
Cornerstone.....	\$757.40
Cross Roads- Lebanon.....	\$718.43
Crossroads- Wentzville.....	\$1,070.00
Cuba	\$1,062.00
De Soto 1st.....	\$1,900.00
Faith- Fair Grove	\$259.14
Farmington 1st.....	\$2,682.48
Fellowship.....	\$1,300.00
Fith & Hope- Aurora.....	\$149.85
Fordland	\$703.00
Fourth.....	\$245.59
Fredericktown 1st.....	\$560.00
Freeman Chapel	\$490.50
Generations	\$847.78
Gospel Light.....	\$200.00
Grace	\$2,202.35
Grant Ave.....	\$1,064.96
Greenfield	\$254.00
Hannibal	\$1,035.00
Hannon	\$812.00
Harmony	\$494.23
Hartville.....	\$1,540.00
Harvest	\$594.70
Hazel Creek.....	\$981.05
Hickory Grove	\$205.00
Hopewell	\$630.00
Houston 1st	\$357.34
Hurryville.....	\$1,165.83
Jackson.....	\$256.78
Kings Way	\$623.46
Koshkonong.....	\$136.00
Lead Hill.....	\$358.59
Leadington	\$600.00
Lebanon 1st	\$2,023.00
Lebanon Greenhills.....	\$587.45
Macedonia- Niangua	\$152.12
Marshfield	\$253.53
Merls Chapel.....	\$310.20
Mill Creek.....	\$772.89
Mine La Motte	\$108.35
Monett 1st.....	\$892.59
Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$1,913.05
Mt. Pisgah.....	\$716.00
Myrtle.....	\$328.86
Nevada.....	\$365.57
New Hope	\$356.00
New Life- Licking	\$462.86
Niangua	\$355.85
Number One	\$172.15
Oak Grove- Mtn. Grove.....	\$299.67
Oak Hill	\$701.00
O'Fallon	\$2,602.44
Olivet.....	\$613.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$2,506.95
Parkview.....	\$499.00
Pleasant Hill- Thayer	\$193.51
Pleasant Ridge- Thayer	\$80.00
Pleasant Ridge- Urbana.....	\$154.00
Potosi 1st.....	\$395.00
Raymondville 1st	\$176.91
Rejoice.....	\$908.12
Republic.....	\$607.65
Richwoods 1st.....	\$1,054.00
Rock Chapel	\$447.59
Rolla 1st	\$394.00
Salem.....	\$30.00
Seymour.....	\$957.00
Smyrna.....	\$90.00
Springfield 1st.....	\$1,684.59
Stockton	\$386.39
Stonebridge	\$950.00
Thayer	\$1,628.00
Trinity.....	\$1,079.02
Union	\$60.00
Union Grove.....	\$866.00
Union Light.....	\$159.00
United	\$1,943.60
Unity	\$570.00
Verdella	\$925.42
Viburnum	\$614.00
Victory- Alton	\$808.05
Victory- KC.....	\$2,027.89
Waynesville 1st	\$1,099.18
West Plains 1st	\$2,138.00
Wilderness.....	\$497.00
Willow Springs	\$1,403.28
Willow Springs 1st	\$113.00
Wolf Creek.....	\$691.37
Total	\$81,954.45

Show-Me Plan

Beacon.....\$325.25
Belton \$165.00 |

Berry, Roberta	\$15.00
Bethel- Festus.....	\$45.00
Black Oak.....	\$180.00
Bowers, David	\$100.00
Brown, Angela.....	\$15.00
Burns, Jack.....	\$110.00
Cabool 1st.....	\$105.00
Calvary Chapel.....	\$105.00
Calvary Fellowship.....	\$2,835.00
Calvary Fellowship- ref.....	\$6,612.00
Central	\$195.00
Chrisman, Mona.....	\$30.00
Coon Creek.....	\$160.25
Copper Mines	\$210.00
Cornerstone.....	\$476.00
Cross Roads- Lebanon.....	\$120.00
Crossroads- Wentzville.....	\$50.00
Cuba	\$310.50
De Soto 1st.....	\$852.50
Eastern Gate	\$30.00
Faith & Hope- WS.....	\$45.00
Farmington 1st.....	\$565.00
Fellowship	\$1,515.29
Fordland	\$250.00
Fourth.....	\$108.00
Fredericktown 1st.....	\$180.00
Freeman Chapel	\$720.00
Generations	\$363.95
Gospel Light.....	\$1,000.00
Grace	\$639.00
Grant Ave.....	\$310.00
Grantham, Judy.....	\$15.00
Greenfield.....	\$120.00
Hannibal	\$30.00
Hannon	\$2,406.00
Happy Hill	\$120.00
Hartville.....	\$240.00
Harvest	\$100.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$304.31
Hopewell	\$30.00
Houston 1st	\$297.11
Hurryville.....	\$565.00
Jackson.....	\$60.00
Leadington	\$230.00
Lebanon Greenhills.....	\$25.00
Maggart, Roxanne	\$100.00
Merls Chapel	\$30.00
Mill Creek.....	\$140.00
Mill Creek CWF.....	\$15.00
Mill Creek Young Adult	\$15.00
Mine La Motte	\$75.00
MO Cooperative Plan	\$2,458.63
MO WAC	\$1,010.00
Monett 1st.....	\$30.00
Mountain Grove 1st	\$670.00
Mt. Pisgah.....	\$705.00
Mt. Zion- Thayer	\$30.00
Myrtle.....	\$75.00
New Home- Hartville.....	\$210.00
New Hope	\$150.00
New Life- Licking	\$89.00
New Life- Monett.....	\$400.00
Number One	\$60.00
Oak Grove- Mtn. Grove.....	\$202.00
O'Fallon	\$191.75
Old Bethel.....	\$640.00
Olivet.....	\$30.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$34.00
Parkview.....	\$288.15
Pinkerton, Jerry	\$45.00
Pleasant Grove- Anderson	\$270.00
Pleasant Hill- Thayer	\$45.00
Pleasant Ridge- Urbana.....	\$50.00
Porter Chapel.....	\$851.46
Richwoods 1st.....	\$62.50
Rock Chapel.....	\$270.00
Rolla 1st	\$30.00
Sanstra, Jean.....	\$20.00
Springfield 1st.....	\$545.00
Stockton	\$105.72
Thayer	\$550.00
Trinity.....	\$885.00
Union	\$45.00
Union Light.....	\$225.00
United	\$300.00
Unity	\$75.00
Verdella.....	\$1,100.42
Viburnum	\$85.00
Victory- KC.....	\$1,005.00
Walnut Grove.....	\$15.00
Waynesville 1st	\$916.10
Willow Springs	\$233.38
Willow Springs 1st	\$45.00
Total.....	\$38,708.27

State Home Missions

Bookstore.....	\$540.00
Crossroads- Wentzville.....	\$50.00
Fordland	\$10.00
Fredericktown 1st- Aux.....	\$312.00
Gospel Light.....	\$80.00
Grace	\$25.00
Grant Ave.....	\$78.25
Lebanon Greenhills.....	\$117.49
Merls Chapel.....	\$100.00
MO WAC	\$300.00
Myrtle.....	\$85.00
Oak Hill	\$15.00
O'Fallon 1st.....	\$161.50
Ozark 1st.....	\$10.00
Pleasant Ridge- Urbana.....	\$20.00
Republic.....	\$25.00
Thayer	\$75.00
United	\$25.00
Unity	\$70.00
Waynesville 1st	\$100.00
Total.....	\$2,199.24

International Missions

Calvary Fellowship.....	\$355.00
Carthage	\$50.00
Copper Mines	\$100.00
Cross Roads- Lebanon.....	\$200.00
Cuba	\$124.20
De Soto 1st.....	\$35.00
Farmington 1st.....	\$1,000.00
Fellowship.....	\$50.00
Generations	\$80.47
Grant Ave.....	\$15.00
Hartville.....	\$45.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$128.10
Hickory Grove	\$109.34
Houston 1st.....	\$47.50
Mountain Grove 1st	\$53.00
New Testament.....	\$55.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$50.00
Rejoice	\$250.00
Rolla 1st	\$132.14
Springfield 1st.....	\$106.32
United	\$270.00
Waynesville 1st	\$100.00
Total	\$3,356.07

National Home Missions

Bethel- Festus.....	\$50.00
Byrd.....	\$512.00
Calvary Fellowship.....	\$2,341.00

Carthage	\$75.00
Central	\$315.00
Copper Mines	\$100.00
Cuba	\$186.30
De Soto 1st.....	\$280.00
Farmington 1st.....	\$420.00
Fellowship	\$390.56
Fordland	\$85.00
Fourth.....	\$50.00
Fredericktown 1st.....	\$30.00
Gospel Light.....	\$80.00
Grace	\$127.00
Grant Ave.....	\$78.25
Hartville.....	\$30.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$30.00
Houston 1st.....	\$62.50
Jackson	\$60.00
Merls Chapel.....	\$165.00
Monett 1st.....	\$1,525.00
Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$60.00
Mt. Pisgah.....	\$30.00
New Life- Monett.....	\$100.00
New Testament.....	\$75.00
Oak Hill	\$100.00
O'Fallon	\$211.50
Olivet.....	\$130.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$242.00
Rader, Jerry.....	\$20.00
Richwoods 1st.....	\$64.00
Rock Chapel	\$106.50
Rolla 1st	\$162.14
Thayer	\$115.00
Trinity.....	\$80.00
Union Light.....	\$96.00
United	\$5.00
Unity	\$90.00
Verdella.....	\$10.00
Victory- KC.....	\$45.00
Waynesville 1st.....	\$549.70
West Plains 1st.....	\$407.00
Total	\$9,691.45

Designated Giving

Berea Ministries

Hartville.....	\$150.00
Jackson Costa Rica	\$15.00
Total.....	\$165.00

Victor Torrez

United- Youth Group.....	\$200.00
Total.....	\$200.00

Brazil Project

Verdella.....	\$309.92
Total.....	\$309.92

Trula Cronk Home for Children

Myrtle.....	\$25.00
Hartville.....	\$50.00
Unity	\$20.00
David Bowers	\$50.00
Farmington 1st.....	\$15.00
Belton	\$10.00
Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$20.00
De Soto 1st.....	\$55.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$49.05
New Life- Monett.....	\$432.85
Grace	\$26.00
New Hope	\$50.00
Union Light.....	\$50.00

Hannon	\$100.00
Total	\$952.90

C. E. Board

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

Free Will Baptist Bible Collge

Beacon	\$79.12
Mountain Grove 1st	\$165.00
Fellowship	\$10.00
Hopewell	\$10.00
De Soto 1st.....	\$40.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$99.05
Thayer	\$75.00
Olivet.....	\$25.00
Total	\$503.17

Hillsdale

Beacon	\$79.12
Grant Avenue.....	\$25.00
Farmington 1st.....	\$100.00
Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$170.00
Generations	\$89.25
Hazel Creek.....	\$99.05
Thayer	\$75.00
Total	\$637.42

Missouri Retirement

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

Senior Adult Board

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

Mile High Ministries

Verdella.....	\$482.71
Total	\$482.71

Youth Camp

Book Store.....	\$540.00
Mt. Pisgah.....	\$15.00
Niangua	\$25.00
Hartville.....	\$10.00
Rock Chapel	\$20.00
Rolla 1st	\$20.00
Union	\$30.00
Willow Springs	\$50.00
David Bowers	\$50.00
Cornerstone.....	\$100.00
Belton	\$25.00
Mountain Grove 1st	\$50.00
Hartville.....	\$20.00
De Soto 1st.....	\$55.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$98.10
New Life- Monett.....	\$432.85
Thayer	\$75.00
Trinity.....	\$9.00
Verdella.....	\$20.00
West Plains 1st	\$25.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$10.00
Trinity.....	\$9.00
Willow Springs	\$50.00
Niangua	\$25.00
Total	\$1,763.95

Youth Camp Development

Myrtle.....	\$72.00
Marvin Cochran	
Dorms	\$100.00
Oak Hill	\$15.00
Total	\$187.00

Youth Ministries Board

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

**Total April
Giving
\$133,927.25**

**Cooperative Fund
to Date
\$278,713.57**

**Show-Me Fund
to Date
\$120,574.93**

*Shop
Lebanon
Bible
and
Bookstore
for all your
VBS
Literature
needs!*

**1-800-261-
0571**

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.

First Church
Cape Girardeau, MO
Contact:
Don Gregory
573-339-0797
or
Dave Lane
573-334-1106

Overland Church
Overland, MO
Contact:
William Coffman
314-429-4374

First Church
Houston, MO
Contact:
Pearl Richardson
417-967-3703
Omer Edington
417-967-3524

**Lebanon Green Hills
Church**
Lebanon, MO
Contact:
Milan Ruble
417-588-3996

Trinity Church
Bridgeton, MO
Contact:
Harold Bailey
314-291-1710

The National Association of Free Will Baptists

72nd Annual Session
Charleston, West Virginia,
July 20-23, 2008,
Charleston Civic Center.



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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #380
Nashville, TN



*****3-DIGIT 372

JACK WILLIAMS
3606 W END AVE
NASHVILLE TN 37205-2403

2*1

Serving Missouri Free Will Baptists Since 1929