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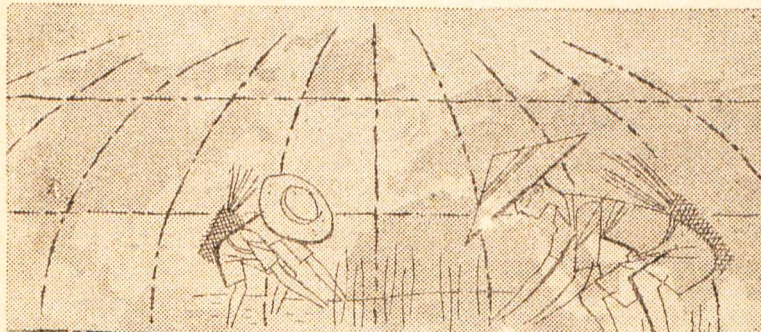
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The Free Will Baptist Gem

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GOD'S SUPPLY for the

WORLD'S NEED



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

FEBRUARY 25, 1955



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE
ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS.
SERVING THE CHURCH EVERYWHERE.
ENDORSED BY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

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EDITOR AND MANAGER
REV. LLOYD T. JEFFREYS

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AMONG OUR SICK FOLKS

Word from Sis. Mary Wellbaum re-
cently tells us that Bro. Wellbaum isn't
very well, and at that time had not
been out of the house for three weeks.
The Wellbaums now live at Highland,
Kansas.

Rev. T. C. Ferguson, who means so
much to Free Will Baptists of Missouri
and who is well known by older
Free Will Baptists over the entire de-
nomination, is confined to his home
most of the time. His eyesight has fail-
ed him considerably. However, he re-
tains an active interest in the welfare
of the demonination. His address is
Weatherby, Missouri.

Sis. Pearl Allred, wife of Rev. O. T.
Allred, recently suffered a kidney in-
fection and other complications. For a
time she was quite ill, but we are glad
to report she is improving at this writ-
ing. At the same time, Sis. Allred's
mother, Sis. Alice Finn was hospital-
ized in serious condition. She is also
improved at this time. Sis. Finn makes
her home with the Allreds at 904 Fifth
Street, Monett, Missouri.

Sis. Jeanne Barton is still confined
to her home and must spend much of
her time in bed in her battle with rheu-

matic fever. Sis. Jeanne is quite well
known among the young people of the
state of Missouri, and has been a regu-
lar attender of the Missouri State As-
sociation and the National Association
the past few years. Her address is
Route 4, Stockton, Missouri.

Rev. and Mrs. B. F. Brown are not
able to be punctual at all services of
the church as they once were, due to
their advanced age. It has been neces-
sary for Bro. Brown to receive hospi-
tal treatment during the past year. He
responded favorably to treatment and
returned home where he takes care of
the affairs of his home. Their address
is Cassville, Missouri.

GLEANINGS

For where your treasure is, there
will your heart be also. Mt. 6:21

—o—

When we walk toward the "light,"
the shadows fall behind.

—o—

"Reputation" is what others think
us to be; "character" is what we really
are.

—o—

A good conscience is the palace of
Christ.

—o—

If disappointment does not make us
bitter, it will make us better.

—o—

You cannot do a deed too soon; for
it may soon be too late.

—o—

Most people "live and learn;" but
few people "learn to live."

—o—

Every "cloud" has a silver lining.

—o—

A Christian should be like a good
watch: open faced, busy hands, pure
gold, well regulated, full of GOOD
WORKS.

—o—

If a person will read three chapters
each week day and five chapters on
Sunday, he will have read the Old and
New Testaments in one year. Why not
start today?

— R. R. M.

HOW TO BE SAVED

First, hear the Word! How can you hear the Word? Go to church and hear the preacher read the Bible and preach from it; listen to him attentively. Have some good Christian friend, who knows the Gospel, read it and explain it to you. Read the Gospel yourself with prayer, and meditate upon it. Believe the Word after hearing it read and explained, and after reading it yourself. Do not try to understand the whole Bible at once; you can understand enough of it to be saved.

After hearing and believing it, call upon the Lord. Rom. 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." When calling upon the Lord repent of your sins. Tell Him about them and ask Him to forgive and pardon you. Jesus taught repentance; Matt. 4:17, "From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Peter preached repentance; Acts 2:38, "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins." You ask, "What is repentance?" Some say that it just changing your mind and turning about face. I like the little Sunday School girl's definition: "Tell God about your sins—and then quit doing them." Paul says (Heb. 12:1) "Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us." Be converted. Undergo a moral change. Convert your life from doing evil to doing righteousness. Acts 3:19, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted." Matt. 18:3—Jesus speaking, "Verily, I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as a little child, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Believe and have faith in Christ. Put your confidence and trust in Him. Believe in your heart in Christ. Rom. 10:9-10, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and

with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Eph. 2:8, "For by grace are ye saved through faith." Confess Christ as your Saviour. Keep the commandments and live; Matt. 19:17, "But if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." Love Christ and worship Him by keeping His commandments, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." We should love God and our neighbor, and one another. Matt. 22:37, 39, "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Be baptized to follow Christ in fulfilling all righteousness. Acts 2:38, "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

You must endure; Matt. 10:22, "But he that endureth to the end shall be saved." How shall you endure? By prayer, reading the Bible, joining a church and fellowshiping with God's people, staying away from evil places and taking no part in wicked things. James 1:12, "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life." Keep yourself unspotted from the world. II Peter 3:18, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." Do good works along with your faith, for by works your faith is made perfect. James 2:26, "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." Works will not save you, but by works your faith is made perfect. Your faith is kept alive by doing good deeds. Eph. 2:10, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." If we continue to do evil works we will soon lose faith in Christ, and renew our faith in Satan. Remember sin unrepented of brings forth death. You can not say, "I have faith in Christ, and believe in Him," and keep on sinning and be saved. The Devil believed in Christ and confessed Him as the Son of

God, and trembled and was not saved.

You say, "How shall I know when I am converted?" The Holy Spirit will witness to your soul that you are saved. Heb. 10:15, "Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us." You know when you are hungry for food, and when you have eaten all you want. You feel the hunger and you feel the fullness. The same is true about being saved: you feel you have done wrong, and feel like you should do right, you feel you are a sinner, and you feel the Spirit dealing with you. Now if you will pray to God and confess your sins and ask for pardon, the Holy Spirit will come and speak to you. You can feel His presence, and a comforting feeling will come into your soul. You just feel full and satisfied. You feel at peace in your soul.

Hear the Gospel. Believe the Gospel. Repent and be converted. Believe and have faith in Christ. Love God and man. Confess Christ. Be baptized. Fellowship with God's people. Pray and read the Bible. Do good and live a righteous life. Obey and endure unto the end.

Warren Moffitt - Winnigan, Mo.

HAVE NEW PASTOR

Third F.W.B. Church
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Readers:

We are happy to have Rev. John Rogers pastoring our church here now. We have been having some wonderful services and God has blessed our church with five souls saved in the past few days. We have had an increase in our mid-week prayer meeting services. Also, we are really thankful for the spirit that we feel in the services. Our young people are doing a wonderful job taking part in the services and printing our bulletin. They also put on a very inspiring Christmas play called "The Bethlehem Inn."

We really thank God for sending a Spirit-filled man like Bro. Rogers to us for pastor and it seems like God has just poured out His blessings on our church. We still desire the prayers of every Christian.

/s/ Sis. Donna Cunningham

Christmas Season in South India

"Westfield," Kotagiri
South India
January 5, 1955

Dear Friends,

A bright and happy New Year to all! You have been very much in our hearts and minds, and in our prayers, and we were longing to send you a word of greeting for the mutual remembrance and fellowship during the Christmas season. Even more, we wish many of you could have been with us to enjoy firsthand the blessings He has been giving us. From year to year in our Christmas activities there is so much repetition that when an account of it is reduced to writing often only the bare framework is seen. But we have each year asked the Lord to breathe His breath upon the structure of our Christmas program and to make Himself pre-eminent. He has been answering this prayer increasingly and for several years. Christmas holidays have brought us true, old-fashioned revival blessings. We trust we may share some of this blessing with you now.

By now you know our usual round. This year brought a larger attendance of parents to our school Christmas program than ever before. As the light of the Gospel has slowly and tediously penetrated, parents have been drawn into fellowship and a community spirit gradually aroused. Government educational leaders have circulated many patterns for drawing parents into cooperation with the school, and school managements have been hounded to enlist this cooperation. It thrilled us with praise and gratitude to see the house crowded to capacity and doors and windows jammed with latecomers, and to recognize this as the influence of a simple school with Christ and His cross at its center. It was Wednesday before Christmas, the children had gaily decorated the building, and the program pictured clearly the meaning of Christmas. There were

also scenes and acts to give glimpses of other nations of the world.

Parents Learn

You would have enjoyed seeing a school girl dressed up like an American child! There was China with her baby on her back, Japan, Africa, Hawaii, Islands of the Sea, and others, with some custom depicted for each. If you try to imagine that you are illiterate, that you go out for work in the forest or field daily, that you have never even seen a train, and that your little world closes in around your family and your work, you can capture the wonder of these scenes to most of our parents who saw and heard. And you can feel with these humble parents the pride of seeing their own children teach them in this way and discover hitherto unknown worlds to them.

In a skit to give emphasis to our literary campaign, the postman delivers a letter to an illiterate villager who asks the postman to wait and read it to him. Postman must be on his rounds and obviously cannot stop to read letters for everybody. The villager is left to pace the platform in great perplexity, and wonder how he can find out what is in his letter. Several people cross his path, but all, like himself, are illiterate. Finally, he finds one young man who has been to school, and with unspeakable relief he sits down to hear his letter read. It is from a relative in Kotagiri inviting him to the grand occasion of the Christmas celebration at our school! The villager eagerly prepares to go for the celebration, but as he prepares to go he also resolves to send his own children to school and to do all in his power to support education and to influence his people to learn.

Immigrants Come

To this school program come some of our children from a very backward village where we have had a meager witness for a few

years and a more active Sunday School witness for the past year. The villagers here are Telugu-speaking folk who migrated to Tamil country for work, and so it has been a painstaking task to reach them through the medium of Tamil, and because of this language barrier they have been almost completely isolated except for our touch with them. Unlearned in their own language, it is the more difficult for them to learn a foreign tongue. We were very anxious for them to have this touch with our school and to share in our Christmas joys. We invited them but wondered how far we could hope they would respond. Imagine our joy, therefore, when on the appointed day a group of them appeared, full of curiosity and expectation. The school program had been announced for 4:00 p. m., but they arrived about 10:00 a. m. But it was all in their favor! It gave them time to play games, sing songs and recite Bible verses—and to eat all their little tummies could hold.

Missionaries Encouraged

The school made a real impression on them and we trust we can enroll some of them for the next school year. They returned to us for Christmas Day, and it has been heart-cheering to find a greater interest and reverence for God's Word on the part of both children and parents of this village as we have returned there the two Sundays since Christmas. This gives encouragement as we begin another year.

Christmas Eve is traditionally set aside for Workers' Fellowship meeting, missionaries and Indian co-workers. We drink tea together and share Christmas refreshments. And as we do so we share with one another those delicacies of the deep things of God which He has refreshed our souls, in this way strengthening each in the other's faith. This has become a very sacred occasion to us, and

we have guarded it in the midst of the busy Christmas season. God met us this year in a precious manner that gave us new strength and encouragement, and strengthened the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.

A Bold Plan

Before the Christmas season we had realized the Spirit was at work and many seemed near the Kingdom. The Lord gave a plan for a Bible conference to begin the day after Christmas and to continue through New Year's. A bold plan it was, for we would be physically exhausted by the end of Christmas Day. But it was God's plan, and all odds would be met. During Christmas week we met each night for special united prayer for the following week of meetings. Even on Christmas night the prayer meeting was not omitted. Meanwhile, in the mid-week prayer service the previous week, a young man who had not usually attended came into the meeting under deep conviction, resolved to find pardon and peace at once. It was a time of losing sight of earthly surroundings as God helped us to lead that soul right to the Mercy-seat where Jesus was waiting to take his burden and give him a song. That is exactly what happened, and all present were hushed with the wonder of His presence and power. We knew our revival had begun and that it was God's, not man's. Later on in the special meetings one of the visiting speakers commented that this man had a "sparkling testimony." It gave courage and expectation to us in prayer. In that same prayer meeting others were so under conviction that their faces were a story. It is with hesitancy (lest glory due only to His name be given to man) that we say two of our newer Christian young men had spoken in that meeting, one an ordinary domestic servant who gave a brief but vital message on the two righteousnesses of Romans, chapter 6, and the other a youth who has had a semester in Bible school, the latter giving a simple personal testimony which moved our souls to the depth.

Students Return

Then our other young students returned one by one for the holidays, and each one seemed to come in the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel. Oh, how rich we are in these young lives who have found Him in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, and whose influence is constantly bearing fruit in the community.

Bible Conference

A blessed Christmas Day came and went, and the next day our Bible conference began. All were expectant. And for nine days, through January 3, we heard two men of God give out His Word, building up saints and calling sinners to repentance, as we have seldom heard. Each night brought special manifestations of the Spirit's working. We can't tax you with details here, but we must picture to you the scene of baptism on Sunday noon, with eight souls observing the solemn ordinance before a large outdoor audience. You would be astonished to hear the story of grace and power that brought each one to that hour of baptism. In the service preceding baptism, thirteen others had come forward, either as children brought by their parents for dedication or as adults taking a public stand for Christ and looking forward to church membership in due time. Among them was the wife of Bro. Daniel for whom you have prayed. Daniel was baptized three years ago without his wife, by Brother Woolsey, and has been praying for a united home ever since. Our hearts melted to see the wife take her stand publicly with her husband and the two of them together bring their children for dedication to God. "It is a miracle," is still on all our lips.

Needs Deliverance

About six others have given a good witness. Pray for these, for their strengthening and confirmation in the faith during their probation time. One poor woman who has been under Satan's hand in an impure life for 12 years, is among these. But her captor is furious,

and persistent in his determination to hold her. It is not possible to tell you how much she needs prayer for the miracle power of God in her full and complete deliverance and safekeeping. But we have seen miracles these past weeks, and we can believe for this further one in her life.

Blessings always bring testings also. We are facing severe tests as our infant church grows and begins to find its feet! In exhorting to leadership and self-support, there is often grave misunderstanding of the order in which responsibilities are to be assumed and leadership exercised. The babe aspires to walk before it can crawl, ambitions often outrun sane judgment. We must be careful not to stifle these awakenings but to direct ambitions in safe channels. Infinite wisdom is needed, and prayer for this wisdom is earnestly asked.

Our Pastor is breaking in health and is no longer able to walk up and down the mountain paths, nor to expose himself to the treacherous winds and weather of this altitude at night. Our men work by day and must be reached only at night. There is an unprecedented revival among our people, and women can no longer cope with the great need of our men for a leader. Please take this as an SOS for prayer that God will send us a strong man, strong in body and in spirit, a man of the Word, to go in and out before this people. The harvest truly is plenteous but laborers are few. Pray ye the Lord of the Harvest!

With our united personal greetings in His wonderful Name,

Laura B. Barnard
Volena Wilson

"There are some troubles that are not cured by a Bible and hymn book. They require perspiration and a breath of fresh air."

—o—

"Shallow minds, like shallow waters, are easily ruffled."

—o—

"The man who has a right to boast, doesn't have to."



THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Advancing With Christ

EDITOR: REV. MRS. OPAL JEFFREYS, 304 EUCLID, MONETT, MO.



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WANDA EDWARDS FUND

Received to January 12, 1955

Twin Oak Church	\$12.00
Fredericktown Church	25.00
Mt. Zion S.S. Class	26.00
Jr. Girls S.S. Class Fred'ricktown	2.75
Jr. One Class, Kirksville	2.00
Mountain Grove S.S.	33.00
Fredericktown Auxillary	25.00

(The above gifts were sent on to the State Treasurer to be used toward passage for Wanda.)

Equipment Received

- 1 Beacon-Beam flashlight, Mr. and Mrs. Don Quayle
- 2 dozen wash cloths, Desloge Junior S.S. Class.

Mrs. Eunice Edwards

which we should continue to help tell the world of Jesus. Sis. Agnes Smith sang, "I'd Rather Have Jesus," closing with prayer of consecration in the altar.

Our attendance was about 50 or 55. We feel that the workshop sessions prove a blessing and create greater interest of the work among our women. We are looking forward to our next meeting in April. Pray for us that we may continue in His will and glorify His name.

Mrs. Christine Pinkley, Secretary

DAY TO FREDERICKTOWN

Fredericktown, Missouri

To All of the Readers:

We wish to report the activities of our church and auxiliary. All of our sick folks are better. There have been no deaths in our church recently, and we do thank God for that.

Our Auxiliary met Tuesday evening, January 4. We enjoyed a large attendance. Our new president, Sis. Freeland, was in charge. We are so thankful for members like Sis. Freeland who are so willing to take over and go ahead in the Lord's good work. We enjoyed some wonderful discussion topics given by Sis. Schneider and Sis. Lewis. Our next day session will be postponed to January 19 because of the workshop to be at Desloge on our regularly scheduled meeting time.

At Christmas time the young people of the church gave a wonderful play which was enjoyed by all.

We do ask the prayers of all that read this for our church, and for Bro. Willand Day who has been elected to fill the year as pastor after the resignation of Bro. Wm. Newsome. Let us pray for them both as they go into new fields of labor for the Lord.

Your Sister in Christ,

Mrs. W. I. James, cor. secy.

WORKSHOP SESSION

The ladies of the Southeast Missouri District Woman's Auxiliary conducted their fourth workshop session with the Desloge Auxiliary January 12. The president, Sis. Blanche Pogue of Fredericktown, presided at the session.

The theme of the session was, "Know God's Workers." Sis. Nellie Stegall offered prayer and gave the devotional thoughts, reading Psalm 62. We gained many worthwhile thoughts and ideas from the topic, "Future workers in our Auxiliary at work now," given by Sis. Agnes Smith of the Fellowship Auxiliary. A testimonial service was conducted in which nearly everyone took part, praising God for what the Auxiliary means in helping us to be better mothers, better Christians, and better workers for the Lord. We enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship with the ladies of the different auxiliaries during the lunch hour, exchanging thoughts and ideas that our work may continue to grow in each local auxiliary.

The afternoon session opened with devotions and prayer by Sis. Virginia Beasley of the First Church Auxiliary in Flat River. A wonderful study course was conducted by Sis. Eunice Edwards, who chose the study of missions. She pointed out many ways in

ORGAN INSTALLED

The First Free Will Baptist Church located at Emerson and Cedar Streets, Flat River, Missouri, held a dedicatory service Sunday afternoon, January 16 at three o'clock for their new Hammond organ.

The organ was purchased by the Ladies Mission of the church and was installed October 19.

The program was opened with the hymn, "Faith of Our Mothers" by the congregation, followed with the welcome and prayer by the pastor of the church, Rev. H. C. Beasley. A reading in memory of the deceased members of the mission was read by Mrs. Leslie White.

A solo, "Precious Memories" was sung by Miss Shirley Holdman and the presentation of the organ was made by Mrs. Floyd Scott, president of the Ladies Mission. The dedicatory prayer was offered by Rev. Beasley.

Several numbers were presented by Mr. C. B. Massey of the Acolan Music Co. of St. Louis. The closing hymn, "I Gave My Life for Thee" was sung by the congregation, concluded with the benediction by the church organist, Mrs. Albert Lee McFarland.

The Church has completed plans for an educational building project.

The project, which will consist of approximately a \$20,000 building will be built of semi-block and brick. The structure will be 40 by 60 feet, including a basement and first floor. Some highlights of the building will be a baptistry and a choir loft.

PRESIDENT SICK

The regular evening meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Monett was held at the church and was opened with the group singing "Jesus Saves," followed with prayer by Mrs. Lawrence Weston.

Preceding the lesson period, Miss Barbara Gates, a guest, gave a short review of the book, "The Quack Doctor," by Rev. Paul Woolsey. This was followed by a duet, "Prayer Changes Things," by Mrs. Lyle Roller and her daughter, Janice.

The lesson from the yearbook was entitled "Declaring the Glory Now Through Family Worship." Mrs. Naaman Lombard read the devotional from Psalm 96, and lesson topics were discussed by Mrs. Si Carpenter, Mrs. James McCully, Mrs. Roy Nichols, Mrs. Ed Jones and Mrs. W. L. Powell.

In the absence of the president, Mrs. Nolan Thomas, who is ill, Mrs. Will Gates, first vice president, took charge of the business meeting. Vice chairmen gave reports and routine business was transacted. Announcement was made of the special program to be held Wednesday night, February 9 with Rev. Raymond Riggs, who is foreign missions promotional secretary, as guest speaker. Plans were made for contributions to the poor in connection with this program. Prayer by Mrs. Lyle Roller at the altar dismissed the meeting.

HOLD EXTENSION SCHOOL

Dear Friends in Christ:

It is with the greatest pleasure that I come to you again. God has been so very good to us these past few weeks. Bro. Leroy Forlines has just completed a ten nights extension school at our church. And it was such a blessing and privilege to sit under his teaching. I am sure that we were all drawn near God by his being here. God is so good to His children.

Our Auxiliary met in the home of Mrs. Robert Eden for our monthly all-day service. There were 12 members and four visitors present. The following program was rendered with the theme being "Going Forward in 1955." Hymn, "Onward, Christian Soldiers," by the group. Scripture: Psalm 91. Prayer by Mrs. Marie Hildebrand. The business period was directed by Agnes Smith. Willa Mae Barker was in

charge of the program. Hymn, "He Leadeth Me," by the group. Poem entitled "A Psalm of the New Year," Kathleen LaBrot. "Looking Back—Win One More," Mrs. Milburn. "Looking Forward," Mrs. Turley. Hymn, "Win Them." "Looking on the Field," Della Getz. "Enlistment Promotes Spiritual Growth," Anne Eden. Hymn, "We'll Work 'Till Jesus Comes." Reading, "Crowded Ways of Life," Wanda Ragsdale. Poem, "Our Years are Jewels," Mrs. Baker. Choruses, "Everyday With Jesus," and "Only Believe." Poem, "A New Year's Prayer," Mrs. McCormick. Benediction. Lunch hour together.

After the fellowship of the lunch hour we visited a lady who has been a shut-in for 13 years, and had prayers with her. Our hearts were blessed because we had taken a blessing to someone else.

Please pray for us at the Fellowship Church that we will ever be humble and in His service. God bless everyone is my prayer.

Mrs. Hildebrand, reporter

FETE LOCAL SCHOOL GROUP

The Hazel Creek Woman's Auxiliary of near Kirksville, Missouri, met for their first meeting of the new year with Emma VanLaningham. There were seven members and one visitor present. Guests for the noon meal were the school children and their teacher, Mrs. Moots.

Work for the day was making sheets and pillowcases for one of our members.

In the absence of the president, the first vice president, Martha Letterman, led the devotional period which began with all singing, "The Lily of the Valley." Prayer was by Mary Filkins. The Scripture reading was Matthew 25:14-30. Mrs. VanLaningham introduced the lesson, "Declaring His Glory Now Through Stewardship." Topics were given by Lola Filkins, Bernice Thomas, and Mary Filkins. The business session followed.

The members present reported having read 186 Bible chapters, made 53 sick calls, and sent 15 cards. The Co-Laborer offering was 66 cents.

Dismissal was by praying together the Lord's Prayer.

Lola Filkins, secretary

HAZEL CREEK AUXILIARY

The Hazel Creek Woman's Auxiliary met for their regular monthly meeting February 2 with Pet Zimmerman. There were 12 members and seven visitors: Rev. Mildred Gilliam, Nellie Craig, June and Bernice Thomas and three little girls. Sacks were straightened and made into sheets.

The devotional period opened with all singing "Jesus Saves" led by Bernice Thomas. Rev. Gilliam read Psalm 96 for a Scripture lesson. June Thomas led in prayer. "Declaring His Glory Now Through Family Worship" was studied, with topics given by Minnie Thompson, Lola Filkins, Mary Filkins and Waneta Newcomer. Martha Letterman reviewed the book, "If You Were a Heathen" by J. Howard Russell.

In the business session a motion carried to purchase 12 or 15 tablespoons. Motion carried to give \$5.00 to Foreign Missions. We voted to go to the County Farm to conduct services the Second Sunday in February. We agreed to remember the Missionaries on their birthdays with cards, letters and gifts. Thank You's were acknowledge from Minnie Thompson and Ruby Morton.

Dues received, \$7.50; the Co-Laborer Fund received \$1.84; paid out 63 cents.

There were 963 Bible chapters read, 90 calls made and 49 cards reported.

Dismissed with prayer by Oletha Parsons.

WORDS OF WISDOM

"The world is full of men who are making good livings but poor lives,"

"Young Christians may make mistakes in working for Christ, but they make a greater mistake in not working for Him, No failure in making the attempt is so bad as to fail to make it."

"Men trained in intellect but not in religion and morals will become a menace to the country.—Theodore Roosevelt.

"Brightening up the life of someone else will put a fresh shine on your own."

—Selected

MUSIC IN WORSHIP

There are many instances throughout the Bible wherein we are exhorted to use music in worship, praise and adoration of God. Psalms 96:1-3; 98:1-7; 100:1-2; 149:1; 150.

Music should be an integral part of the worship service. It should not be used as an attraction to draw larger congregations or merely for entertainment; nor should it be used as a means of displaying vocal ability of choir or soloists, or the versatility of the organist or pianist.

Church music has a *greater purpose* than any of the afore-mentioned. The main purpose of music in the church is to lead people into a closer relationship with God their Father, to bring them to know the salvation of Jesus Christ and to experience the peace and comfort that He can give. Music can do this in some instances even better than the sermon.

Another function of church music is that it is a means of religious training. Children can be taught the great truths of the Bible through well chosen songs and choruses. Music can be a strong influence in molding young lives for Christ through participation in youth choirs or merely singing in the Sunday school departments. Always teach children music that they will grow into and not outgrow.

Music is one of the greatest evangelizing agencies. This is evidenced by the use all the great evangelists have made of it and the value they place on it. Dwight L. Moody and Ira Sankey are names we shall never forget. Moody once said that he believed Sankey won more souls to Christ through his singing, than Moody did through his preaching. We witnessed the power and the effect of music during the recent Billy Graham campaign. I shall never forget the sound as thousands of voices were raised in a thrilling crescendo of praise as we sang the great hymns. God used music greatly in that campaign.

Now let us try to determine what is *good church music*. We must learn to discriminate. So how can we determine what is good and what is not good in church music?

First of all, it must glorify, praise, laud, and honor God. God must be the most important subject. If you will examine hymns from this standpoint, you

will find that the best hymns both textually and musically place this emphasis on God. There are two types of hymns — praise hymns and gospel hymns. The first we can think of as vertical—man to God. The second as horizontal—man to man, exhorting him to turn to God. The praise hymn places God in the center and all praise, adoration, glory, and honor is directed toward God. The gospel hymn is more personal in that it is directed more to man, collectively or individually, in pointing him toward God and Jesus Christ. Both of these types have their place.

Good church music should be completely free of all secular connections of idioms. There is a form of pseudo-religious music flooding the sheet music stores, heard on radio and TV. It is being ground out exactly like the popular songs are, and in many instances by these popular song writers who have seen a chance to capitalize on this trend. Although some of this music may have some merit for certain occasions, it should not be used in our church services.

Then there are certain very beautiful melodies which, because of their sheer beauty, have been used as musical settings for religious texts. A classic example of this is a melody from Tchaikowsky's 5th Symphony. A few years ago a popular song came out using this melody. The song was called "Moon Love." There is also a rather beautiful religious setting using the 23rd Psalm set to this same melody. Because of these secular connections I do not believe a song of this type should be used in church.

Another very important criterion by which one can determine good church music is what I term the wedding of words and music. Each must complement the other; they must have congruity.

The singing of religious words to jazz music is not only poor taste, it is irreverent. There are very few times in church music when off beat rhythms, syncopation and other such jazz idioms can be used. This does not mean that church music should be slow, draggy, doleful, and sad. It should not, but it should never employ the secular rhythm of dance music.

The late Mr. B. B. McKinney, who was the editor of the Broadman Hymnal, had a very famous saying. He said that there are three kinds of church

music: head music, foot music, and heart music. I think we can completely rule out the use of foot music in our churches. We might combine the head music and the heart music or at least find a happy medium there.

Any church which is in the process of selecting hymnbooks should seriously consider the above-mentioned factors. So many times churches spend good money for hymnbooks full of cheap, trite, and sometimes irreverent music. If they would analyze the songs contained in these books in the light of what is good and what is poor church music, they possibly would invest the money more wisely.

The term *anthem* sometimes suggests an intricate, involved piece of music that the choir struggles through, being so concerned with getting the notes and words that the meaning and message are lost. In some instances this is true, but on the other hand there are many anthems which possess a simple clarity and beauty and a deep abiding message.

The church is no place for a concert. The use of music merely to show off the versatility of the choir or soloist is just as poor taste as the afore-mentioned "holy jazz."

Church music should certainly possess dignity and majestic stateliness. It should stir the heart and stimulate the intellect. It should lift us up spiritually and tune our hearts with the great heart of God. There is a vast store of great hymns, anthems, and gospel songs which do just that. People do not go to church to hear a syrup-sweet, watered-down gospel. They want to hear the truth in all its beauty, simplicity, and sincerity. By the same token then, they should not want merely ear-tickling, foot-patting, or syrup-sweet music.

There are six things that all good church music should possess: 1, sincerity; 2, reverence; 3, dignity; 4, clarity and simplicity of expression; 5, beauty; 6, truth.

We who are Christians have the greatest message to tell to the world through the spoken word and through song. It behooves us to present this great message in the most attractive way possible.

Every week millions of dollars are spent for secular music on radio and TV. Producers, conductors and artists go all out to create as nearly perfect programs to tell the world to "Be Hap-

py, Go Lucky—Smoke Lucky Strikes;" or that Super Bubble Soap Powders will help you solve all your problems, or that Cheery Cola will make life more cheerful for you. All of which is sounding brass and tinkling cymbal.

It is gratifying to know that many good musicians, singers and conductors are forsaking the secular fields of radio, TV, and show business, for the more satisfying though possibly less remunerative field of religious music. Although I am not advocating the Hollywood treatment for church music, I do believe we should continually strive to lift its standards.

Once a very beautiful singer of light opera and musical comedy was asked to sing in church. She came to rehearsal and appeared quite nervous. At the end of rehearsal she said, "May I come back tomorrow and go over my solo again?" The director said, "Yes, of course." So the next day, which was Saturday, she came again and appeared even more nervous than before. The director then asked her why it was

that she, who had appeared before thousands every evening, should be so nervous about singing a solo in church. This charming person, who was also very sincere, answered, "Oh, that is merely make believe, but this is the real thing."

Music in the churches should be the most beautiful on earth, because we have the greatest message of all time. It is not a good testimony for any church to have cheap, trite, dead music. That is why we need more and more trained church musicians, and more and more pastors and congregations who know what good church music is and who can discriminate between the wheat and the chaff.

You who go out from this college can truly be the leaven which will permeate the entire denomination in raising our church music standards. I know many of you feel as I do on the subject. Let us continue to work diligently together in this great cause for the glory of God.

city. Many people seem to think this about heaven. But Jesus is our only guide to heaven. The way is strait and narrow. We are to follow "The Way," Jesus—our example in right living.

Christ was born without sin. But not man! "Ye must be born again," said Jesus to Nicodemus. And one of the apostles said, "Ye must put off the old man and put on the new." If you are on **The Way** you are traveling toward heaven and eternal life.

Christ's suffering and death opened the way for us. His resurrection gave us a resurrection to eternal life.

His way is to accept forgiveness of sin and Christ as our personal Saviour, or we cannot have eternal life.

The mansions in heaven are waiting for you and I. Heaven is our home if we will only follow "The Way"—Jesus.

Sophia Ackerson - Richwoods, Mo.

"I AM THE WAY"

(John 14:6b)

Man by nature has a divine way, because back in the beginning God took the dust of the earth and made man in His own image and likeness and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul. So man is essentially devout.

Man then disobeyed God and became a sinner, and had no Saviour until Jesus came to give His life for our redemption.

God has given man a definite view of heaven. He has assured man of eternal life. The Biblical heaven is not fleshly. The Christian heaven is upward. The Apostle Paul speaks of "the glory that shall be," speaking of heaven.

The account in St. John, 14th chapter is Jesus' farewell sermon to His apostles before He was led away to the judgement hall to be tried, convicted, and crucified. This portion of the Word is full of comfort and instructions.

Peter, being the most wrought up one, asked Jesus, "Why can't I follow now, or why can't I go

with thee now. I will lay down my life for thee." But later we find Peter following Jesus afar off, denying he ever knew his Master. Many people are doing the same today—following Jesus afar off, ashamed to own Him. And some afraid of what they might have to do if they follow closely.

Of course this farewell message caused much sorrow in their hearts and they were concerned about their beloved Master leaving them.

Jesus knew His beloved Apostles would have to suffer tribulations and hardships for His sake as long as they were in the world. So He was trying to instruct them by saying, "I am the way, the truth, and the life," and comforted them by saying, "I will not leave you comfortless."

Dear friends, is your cross more than you can bear? Happiness can be yours if you follow "The Way" and endure until the end.

Jesus said, "I am the Way." He is the way to heaven and eternal glory. There are many roads leading to St. Louis, Missouri from our town. We could go several directions and still reach the

SUNDAY SCHOOL AWARDS

During the month of January the Sunday School of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Flat River made awards for perfect attendance for persons attending from one year to fifteen years.

Those receiving their first year pin were Gary Busenbark, Trudy Busenbark, Virginia Watkins, Karen Adams, Janet Busenbark, Leona Honbeck, Mary Lee Gammon, Melvin Shaffer, Ed Sirclum, Rev. H. C. Beasley, Mrs. H. C. Beasley, Darrell Beasley, Grace Abernathy, Timothy Abernathy.

Three were presented their second year wreath. They were Glenda Gray, Rip Wright, Nancy Gammon.

Two were presented their eighth year bar and they were Bessie Lincoln and Shirley White. Albert Tucker was presented with a third year bar.

Lucy Shaffer was presented her fourteenth bar and Jean Williams was presented her fifteenth bar.

Rev. H. C. Beasley is pastor of the church and Mr. Denny Smith is superintendent of the Sunday School.

—Jean Williams



From The Editor's Desk



FROM OUR FRIENDS

(We are printing this one by request, but we are flattered.) There are at least two good reasons why I like the Free Will Baptist Gem. One of these is the editor, his fine Christian spirit, and great personality. Another is that it is owned by our Free Will Baptist people. I think we owe it to our great denomination. Rev. J.T.Q., Miss.



I am sending in our renewal to the Gem, for we like it very much. Rev. R. Y., Ark.



I have received the Gem for about 18 months, and sure enjoy it. I had to move away from all Free Will Baptist Churches, so don't get to attend them anymore. For 35 years I have only heard two Free Will Baptist preachers. But it is still the church of my choice. I would be so happy if we could hear a true Free Will Baptist again. We go to a union Sunday School. Please extend my sub, for I don't want to be without the Gem again. Mrs. R.J., Mo.

MEET AT WAGONER

Central Western Missouri Association of Free Will Baptists met for their regular Fifth Sunday Rally with the Wagoner Church near Stockton. A good representation assembled early, and Sunday School was at the regular hour. The morning worship hour followed, with Rev. Frank Linton, pastor of the Verdella Church, bringing the message which was enjoyed by all. The noon hour was spent in fellowship and doing justice to a bountiful dinner.

The afternoon session opened with congregational singing and devotions by Bro. Dee York. Prayer was by Sis. Izola Zellmer. A program of recitations, music and singing, readings and a playlet was given by the various churches and was enjoyed by all present. The pastor of the church, Rev. Lowell Martin, was in charge of activities in the absence of both the president and vice president. Also absent because of continuing illness was the

regular secretary, Sis. Jeanne Barton.

The Executive Board of the Association met and approved the letter of the newly organized First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenfield seeking membership in the Association. All but one member of this church were in attendance.

Benediction was at a late hour, with everyone feeling that it had indeed been good to be at the house of the Lord. The next meeting will be with the Verdella Church near Iantha, Missouri in Barton County. Rev. Opal Jeffreys will be the morning speaker.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES

	JA	FE	MR
Richwoods	83.	.	.
(League)	54.	.	.
<i>Leslie Logsdon, pastor</i>			
<i>Clarence Sohn, Supt.</i>			
Copper Mines (S.E. Mo.) ..	94.	.	.
<i>Glenn Rehkop, pastor</i>			
Fourth, St. Louis	80.	.	.
<i>Wm. Turnbough, pastor</i>			
Southside, St. Louis	204.	.	.
<i>James Franklin, pastor</i>			
Mountain Grove	185.	.	.
<i>Fred Kirby, pastor</i>			
Elizabethton, Tenn. First	195.	.	.
<i>Harvey E. Hill, pastor</i>			
Lawnwood, Tulsa, Okla. ...	206.	.	.
<i>Harry Staires, pastor</i>			
<i>G. W. Cunningham, Supt.</i>			
Phillips Chapel, Arkansas	147.	.	.
<i>Tommie Day, pastor</i>			
Mt. Pisgah, Cabool	46.	.	.
<i>Ezra Butts, pastor</i>			
Joplin First	33.	.	.
<i>Paul Williams, pastor</i>			
Monett	111.	.	.
<i>James Davis, pastor</i>			
<i>Leon Hilton, Supt.</i>			
St. Marys, New Berne, N.C.	335.	.	.
<i>Cecil Campbell, pastor</i>			
New Hope, N'ville, Tenn. ...	168.	.	.
(League)	76.	.	.
<i>Robert Hill, pastor</i>			
Farmington	46.	.	.
<i>James Barker, pastor</i>			

Note: December average for the First Church, Elizabethton, Tennessee, 207.



DR. JOHN H. WOLFE

Free Will Baptists everywhere will be saddened to know of the passing of Bro. John H. Wolfe of Pawnee City, Nebraska.

Word has been received in this office from Mr. George M. Miller of that city, who was Bro. Wolfe's agent, that Dr. Wolfe passed away December 30 in the hospital there. Mr. Miller says that he was laid to rest beside his wife in the Pawnee Cemetery on a beautiful New Years afternoon.

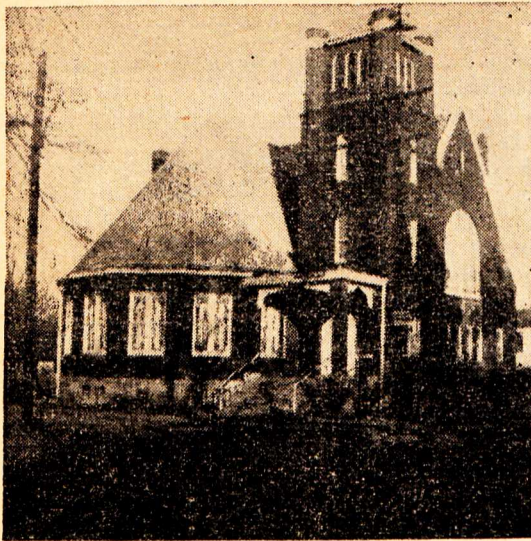
Bro. Wolfe had been one of the anchors a few years ago, holding the remnants of believers in the distressing time of the infamous "sell out" of our denomination. His steadfastness and his refusal to yield to compromise or expediency has proven a tower of strength and a great encouragement to the denomination. His judgment and his contributions to the church were of inestimable value and have been widely felt. Bro. Wolfe passed from this life a pauper of this world's goods, but his heritage to us is of greater value by far than anything in the material realm.

We shall long mourn his passing.

—Editor

BARGAIN RATE EXTENDED

We are happy to announce that the Missouri State Executive Board, while in a recent session, decided to extend the bargain rate now in effect for the Gem. So it will continue for a time at \$1.00—new or renewal. We urge you to take advantage of this bargain rate.



FARMINGTON CHURCH BUYS BUILDING FROM METHODIST

First F.W.B. Church
Farmington, Missouri

Dear Bro. Jeffreys:

We are writing to tell of the progress of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Farmington, Missouri. We want all our people to know how the Lord is blessing us.

We were called to pastor the church on December 2 and brought our first message as pastor on December 5. We were still in a state of partial organization and unable to transact business as a church.

On December 18 the St. Francis County Quarterly Meeting Board met with the group and completed the organization. B. O. Clyde Grass was elected deacon, Bro. George Hart as trustee and Sis. Oda Nichols as clerk-treasurer.

After the church was organized, we began to negotiate with the Memorial Methodist Church of Farmington for the building they had vacated upon erection of a new church. After preliminary negotiations, a committee was elected by the church, namely: Sis. Robert Parker, Sis. Ada Nichols, Bro. Clyde Grass, Rev. Charles Moyers and Rev. James Barker. We bought the property for \$25,000 which consisted of building, complete with pews, furniture, and pipe organ.

We occupied the building and held our first service on December 22 for Prayer Meeting. And how the Lord did bless us, and we couldn't thank Him

enough for all His blessings.

The church has adopted the State Co-Operative program. We also are using a rotation plan on our deacon board. Our attendance for the month of December was 26 average and for January we saw it increase to 46. We now have 31 members.

We are very happy over the many blessings the Lord has bestowed on us and for the great prospects for the church.

Please pray for the church and help us thank the Lord for what He is doing in Farmington.

Yours in His Name,

Rev. James Baker, pastor
Route 2
Farmington, Missouri

FIFTH SUNDAY PROGRAM AT MARTINSTOWN CHURCH

The Northeast Missouri Free Will Baptist Fifth Sunday Meeting convened with the Martinstown Church January 30, 1955; Sunday School at 10:00 o'clock. The morning worship service was opened with congregational singing, followed by a praise service. After prayer by Rev. Alta Mikel, Rev. Stanley Letterman brought the message of the hour. He read for a Scripture lesson Romans 1:16, and used for his subject, "Things That Make Our Church Successful." He delivered a very inspiring message. We were dismissed with prayer. A bountiful dinner was served at the noon hour.

The afternoon session was opened with congregational singing. Prayer by Rev. Orville Dobbs. Sister Alta Mikel read for the Scripture lesson I Peter 1:3-18. Prayer by Sis. Oletha Parsons. The congregation sang "Let Him Have His Way With Thee." Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Letters from Hazel Creek, New Harmony, and Kirksville Auxiliaries were received. The next meeting will be with the Hazel Creek Church, with Rev. Wayne Parsons bringing the eleven o'clock message. Rev. Orville Dobbs is his alternate. A report was given by Rev. Stanley Jones on the Extension School from the Free Will Baptist Bible College.

The following program was given: Song, "Jesus Loves Me," Drennan sisters. Song, "Thirty Pieces of Silver," Fowler children. Trio, "Oh, Say But I'm Glad" and "No One Cared for Me Like Jesus," Kirksville. Reading, "Grandma's Philosophy," Sharon Christman. Duet, "Little Pine Log Cabin," Patty Drennan and Jannie Adkins. Sword Drill by Intermediates. Winners were: first, Wanda Burgin; second, Sharon Christman, and third, Patty Drennan. Play, "Love or Duty," Hazel Creek. Play, "The Lord Will Work It Out," New Harmony. The congregation sang one verse of "God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again." We were dismissed with prayer by Rev. Wayne Parsons.

Leona Thompson, secy.

MISTAKES

All men, no matter how big, make mistakes. But history teaches us that big men refuse to falter because of mistakes. Henry Ford forgot to put a reverse gear in his first automobile. Edison once spent over two million dollars on an invention which proved of little value.

The men who make no mistakes lack boldness and the spirit of adventure. He is the one who never tries anything new; he is the brake on the wheels of progress. So, don't spend your time regretting mistakes, but get up and hit the line twice as hard. You'll never succeed beyond the mistake to which you are willing to surrender. Remember, a mistake becomes an error only when nothing is done to correct it.

—Selected

STATE TREASURER'S REPORT

October, November, December - 1954

CO-OPERATIVE FUND

Hickory Grove	\$ 38.05
Fourth St. Louis	96.17
Flat River First	262.86
Fredericktown	226.95
Leadington	152.62
Myrtle	24.62
Aulsbury Chapel	150.10
Meris Chapel	60.47
Desloge	42.39
Mine La Motte	32.43
Fellowship	324.44
Carterville	36.84
Union Light	26.49
Faith and Hope	18.10
Coppermines	58.17
Pleasant Hill	5.00
Sublette	28.00
Hannon	26.00
South Side	90.00
Mill Creek	9.00
Kirksville	125.00
Third St. Louis	104.67
Richwoods	79.70
Monett W.A.	3.94
Verdella	31.35
Mt. Valley	26.50
Rock Chapel	26.87
Martinstown	10.00
Black Oak	6.40
Hazel Creek Union	65.74
Total	\$2,188.67

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Fredericktown	\$ 43.35
Monett	48.60
Buffalo S.S.	17.75
Ted Zellmer, Freeman	35.00
Union Light	11.60
Fellowship	50.00
Desloge Mission	7.50
Wolf Creek	15.00
Union Light S.S.	52.98
Independence	10.00
Flat River First	138.30
New Harmony Mission	1.00
Wagoner	9.85
Coppermines S.S.	9.85
Joplin	17.87
Hartville	9.45
Garfield	11.00
Total	\$ 495.48

EDWARDS FUND

Flat River	\$ 10.00
Union Light	50.00

Farmington Mission	25.00
Desloge	7.00
Illinois W.A.C.	35.00
Madison County Q.M.	33.75
Mill Creek League	15.00
New Harmony Mission	5.00
Mill Creek	12.60
Desloge Inter. Boys S.S. Class	5.00
Kansas City W.A.	10.00
Ladies Aid, Salem	10.00
St. Francois Co. W.A.C.	25.00
Fredericktown League	10.00
Madison Co. S.S. Convention	50.00
Twin Oak	12.00
Fredericktown	25.00
Mt. Zion S.S. Class	26.00
Frederick't'n Jr. Girls S.S.Cl.	2.75
Kirksville Jrs. "One" S.S.Cl.	2.00
Mt. Grove S.S.	33.00
Fredericktown W.A.	25.00
Total	\$ 429.10

MISSIONS

Rock Chapel	\$ 35.19
Little Vine	1.00
Mt. Pisgah	14.91
Flat River First	64.61
Macedonia	38.18
St. Louis Third	35.12
Fellowship, Flat River	100.00
New Harmony	103.85
Verdella	27.56
Jewell	26.50
Mrms. A. L. DeWeese, Easton.	6.00
Neosho	8.00
Niangue Q.M.	9.75
New Prospect S.S.	10.44
Total	\$ 481.11

STATE HOME MISSIONS

Monett	\$ 28.75
Coppermines W.A.	16.61
Total	\$ 45.36

GENERAL EXPENSE

Cave Springs	\$ 18.55
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SUPERANNUATION

Monett	\$ 14.57
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YOUTH CAMP

Wagoner	\$ 3.29
K.C. League	15.00
Total	\$ 18.29

CO-LABORER FUND

Fellowship Auxillary	\$ 5.00
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HANNA FUND

St. Louis Third	\$ 105.00
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BIBLE COLLEGE

Monett	\$ 48.60
Wagoner	3.28
Total	\$ 51.88

TENNESSEE ORPHANAGE

Hazel Creek Primary and Beginners Class	\$ 7.23
Garfield	11.00
Total	\$ 18.23

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Monett	\$ 12.13
Wagoner	3.28
South Side	10.00
Total	\$ 25.41

GEM

Monett	\$ 19.42
Wagoner	3.29
Total	\$ 22.71

Total All Funds\$3,919.56

Loren Willford, Treasurer
Freeman, Missouri

ENROUTE TO AFRICA

You would be interested to know that I was aboard ship here on my birthday and expected little stir about it, so was pleasantly surprised when the captain of the ship, African Star, had a huge homemade cake made for the occasion and just beautifully decorated! Besides this Harold had a birthday gift tucked away in his suitcase and the nine other passengers gave me a box of oddments, so it was an unusual day for me.

At the writing of this letter we have been at sea two weeks. The first week was very rough and most of us spent the day "feeding the fishes." But soon, after it was all over, we got our sea legs and were able to go to the table and really enjoy the food. Since then everything has been fine . . . so much time on our hands we hardly know what to do with ourselves. Yet this rest is exactly what we needed and we are fully enjoying just relaxing.

/s/ Josephine Stevens

Mrs. Stevens birthdate—December 15.

APPEAL FOR HELP TO PURCHASE CHURCH HOME

Bethel F.W.B. Church
Okmulgee, Oklahoma

Dear Friends in Christ:

No doubt many of you have been contacted before by us in an appeal for help in building churches. We realize that you have done much in this way to further the cause of Christ. We are sure that God has given you abundant blessings for your part in thus furthering His work.

We are now in the effort to establish another new church. This is the fourth time some of you have been appealed to for help in starting new churches. There is a section of town on the east side of Okmulgee which has no white church within one and one-half miles, although it is densely populated. There is a new housing development of eighty homes to be built by the end of the year, an plans call for upward of 200 new homes in the vicinity in the near future.

We have an opportunity to purchase a piece of property consisting of a plot of ground 150' x 305' with a small house on it for \$3500.00. The property is adjoining that of the Oklahoma A & M College, School of Technical Training, now we need enough to make a down payment. We have already organized one church here, which now has a lot and a building, but are not able to help us very much.

We would appreciate any amount which the Lord might lay upon your heart to contribute to this cause. Every donation will be receipted, and the amount recorded for the inspection of any interested person. Your contribution will be deductible from your income tax, so you will actually only be paying out eighty cents for each \$1.00 and should be well worth what is being asked for it. If we can get it, we can begin holding services in the building now on the grounds, and not have to build anything further for a little while until we outgrow the present facilities.

To take advantage of this opportunity, we have organized the Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, and are attempting to procure a loan to purchase the property. Our group have made pledges amounting to about \$70.00 monthly to pay for the property, but right now we need enough to make a down payment. We have already organized

one church here, which now has a lot and a building, but are not able to help us very much.

We would appreciate any amount which the Lord might lay upon your heart to contribute to this cause. Every donation will be receipted, and the amount recorded for the inspection of any interested person. Your contribution will be deductible from your income tax, so you will actually only be paying out eighty cents for each \$1.00 you give.

Send your contributions to:

Rev. John B. Elliston
502 W. 15th St.
Okmulgee, Okla.

Make checks payable to the Bethel Free Will Baptist Church.

May God richly bless you, and keep you by His grace.

Yours in the cause of Christ,

/s/ John B. Elliston, pastor

FROM CALVERYS IN JAPAN

January 5, 1955
325 2 chome
Nakameguero
Meguro-Ku
Tokyo, Japan

We have ordered literature from the Bible Meditation League through the contact that you sent us. We trust that we will be able to witness that way even though we cannot speak their language. We have made at least two definite attempts at witnessing to Japanese. One young man seems very interested. He was a pilot in World War II. He comes here to visit us quite often but we are hindered because of the language. He has been a lot of help in teaching us Japanese words and sentences. He knows more about the Gospel than average but there are many things he does not know and understand. For example, he brought us a bottle of wine for a New Year's gift. I tried to tell him tactfully that we DID NOT DRINK and trust that the incident was used as a witness for the Lord. He went and exchanged the wine for orange juice. He did not seem offended and plans to come again next Sunday. Please pray for him. The opportunity for mission work here in Japan is indeed challenging. The 89 million people here still present one of the world's greatest mission fields. I'm glad that the Lord has led Free

Will Baptist to come this way. I trust that it will not be too long before others will be coming to join us.

Please publish our new address in the papers and invite relatives of service men here to get in touch with us. We would like to get acquainted with the Free Will Baptist that may be here.

In Christ,

/s/ Wesley Calvery

LONG TIME FRIENDS OF GEM UNABLE TO ATTEND CHURCH

Ontario, California

Dear Editor and Gem Family:

As it has been some time since I have written, I want to let you know that I'm still enjoying the dear Gem so very much, and enjoy knowing how everyone is. I appreciate the paper so much, and all the news from the Free Will Baptist people.

We are both up and able to get around, but are not too well. But I praise God that it is as well with us as it is. We are having lots of cold weather here, with rain and some snow in the mountains which I can see from here in the valley.

I see that there is a Free Will Baptist Church here in this town. But I don't get to attend church anymore. I am very lame which hinders my getting around, and my husband is very feeble now. I don't leave him alone any more than I just have to. So we get our sermons over the radio and enjoy the good preaching and our many good blessings so very much. Praise His holy name! I read and study God's Word, and I praise Him for the plan of salvation. Without it we would certainly be most miserable. Without the knowledge of a better home waiting us where we will be united with loved ones that have gone on would indeed be distressing.

I ask the dear Lord's richest blessings on our dear brother and sister at the office who labor to provide the Gem for us. And that He will bless Christian people everywhere, the whole world over. I humbly pray that the unsaved will see their condition and be saved before it is too late for them, while there is still opportunity. I want to live an humble life for Him while I am here. Bless His holy name.

A Sister in Christ,

Mrs. Tom Youngblood

"I AM COMING AGAIN"

"When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?" Acts 1:6.

This was the last question the disciples were privileged to ask our Lord while here on earth. It was born of eager expectations and shattered hopes. They had expected an earthly kingdom, and so far Jesus had done nothing about it. But as He leads them to the Mount of Olives—to the very place the prophets had foretold the Messiah would come to set up His kingdom (Zech. 14:4), their hopes began to soar again, for He had spent the last forty days with them speaking of things pertaining to the Kingdom. And so the question that was uppermost in their minds was, Wilt Thou at this time restore again the Kingdom to Israel?

But instead of a definite answer Jesus said (Acts 1:7-8), "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." After assuring them He had not forgotten, a cloud received him out of their sight—as they stood gazing up, speechless with despair and wonder. "Behold, two men stood by them in white apparel." Acts 1:10. Jesus was gone but He knew the loneliness and despair of His beloved disciples. So He immediately dispatched a message from heaven—the very first message which our Lord sent back. And what a message it was! It dispelled all their fears, assured their doubting hearts, rekindled their hopes and sent them back to Jerusalem to await the next message from heaven; the Holy Spirit.

The message Jesus sent (Acts 1:10-11), "Two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye see him go into heaven." Our Lord's first message: "I shall come again."

He had told His disciples it was not for them to know the times or the seasons. He implied by this that we are to look for Him at all times and any time. This message stirred the disciples into action. It should do the same today. Surely, if we believed with all our heart that Jesus might come before dawn of another day, we would make that last day really count for our Lord. It would cause holiness of walk, conduct, and conversation. How real is this blessed hope of our Lord's return! Apostle John tells us very definitely concerning this (I John 3:2-3), "Beloved now we are the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." It is painfully sad, but true, that the passion for wasted souls is almost entirely lost among God's people. They can sit at ease in the air conditioned churches, bicker about things of no importance, quarrel over trifles, and split over non-essentials, while souls all about them are going out into eternal night. So far as they are concerned, there is no need for any excitement or enthusiastic efforts to try to reach them. They shed few tears over the lost and wonder why anyone should be unduly alarmed and disturb them from their peaceful slumber. Theirs is an indifferent and careless state of mind. There is a grave warning which Jesus gave in one of His many parables found in Luke 12:42-49. Jesus implies in this narrative, that the lord of the house has left for a time and committed the feeding of the household to his servant. When he returns, he will reward his servant on the basis of his faithfulness in providing meat at the proper time and in due season. Faithfulness in this matter will be rewarded, according to Jesus' own words, "Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing." Luke 12:43. And then follows our Lord's teaching concerning the unfaithful servant. The penalty is so severe we want

to quote it just as we find it (Luke 12:45-46), "But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; the lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers." In studying these verses we notice: He was a servant of the Lord; He neglected his duty; He abused his fellow-servants; He lived in riotness; He was severely punished. The cause of it all was his attitude toward our Lord's return. Jesus said, "If that servant say in his heart, the lord delayeth his coming . . ." This was his fatal mistake. He did not deny his lord would return, but denied the possibility of him coming an any moment. He simply believed it as a cold fact, but put it in the far future. So it had no effect on his conduct toward the lord's work.

Only as we live in constant expectation of our Saviour's return can it really affect our lives. If we really believe that Jesus might come at any moments, how do you suppose we would live? We never know when our last opportunity has come to warn our loved ones. God requires us to be faithful and preach His word with every moment of life. Our loved ones are not merely unfortunate, but they are lost, if they know not God, and traveling fast to an eternal destiny. How real is Jesus' coming to you at this moment? Do we—while we profess to believe in His return—deny it by our life and actions? We are going to have to meet our Lord and give an account of our life, how we have carried our responsibility. Has the winning of souls been the uppermost motive of your life? Has the love of God in your heart been so strong that we can say with Paul (Rom. 9:3), "For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh." A passion for lost souls is what we must have.

The first message from our Lord,

"I will return" and almost the last words in Revelation 22:20, "He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Can you pray this prayer of the saints?, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."? He is coming, are we ready to meet Him? There is no greater incentive to soul-winning than the blessed hope of our Lord's imminent return.

"Watch ye, therefore, and pray always that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man." Luke 21:36.

Pearl Perriman - Mt. Vernon, Ill.

TO BUILD ADDITION

First Free Will Baptist Church
Flat River, Missouri

The Gem Family:

Jesus said, "Be thou faithful until death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

Our Mission work is going forward, doing things for the glory of God—visiting the sick, taking care of the needy. Our motto for 1955 is, "Watching, praying, working, hastening unto the coming of the Lord." II Peter 3:12.

This is a time when all of our service should take hold of the fact of the coming of our Lord. It is not a normal routine, but we are working under the pressure of an approaching crisis, looking unto and hastening toward the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let the watch word—unto the coming of the Lord—be as a kind of inscription on everything that comes into daily life, regulating our friendships, our service, and all of our thoughts of the future, watching, praying, working, living, hastening unto the coming of the Lord. And we will be able to say as Job said, "Blessed be the name of the Lord." Jesus said, "Occupy till I come."

Our motto of watching, praying, working until Jesus comes directs us to pray that you may be able to suffer without complaining, to be misunderstood without complaining, able to give without receiving, able to endure without breaking, able to be forsaken without grieving, able to ask without commanding, to love despite

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 Beautiful Baptismal Certificates, 10 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches. On beautifully lithographed border forms, and suitable for framing. Every Church needs these for a record.
 These certificates are in books of 20 and stubbed, check book style.
 Price, Post Paid \$1.00

misunderstanding, able to turn to the Lord for guarding, able to wait for His rewarding.

Our good pastor and the building committee are preparing to build a new addition to the church. Our Sunday School and the church have outgrown our lovely old building.

Mrs. Gussie Hamblen, reporter
 Rev. H. C. Beasley, pastor

FOUR CLASSES OF CHURCH GOERS

Spasmodic Church Goers—Attend when the feel like it, but do not often feel like it.

Periodic Church Goers—Attend on Christmas, Easter, and on special days but are afraid to get into the habit of going to church.

Occasional Church Goers—Attend when nothing prevents, but satisfied to let any old excuse get in the way and prevent.

Loyal Church Goers—Allow no excuse to keep them away from church that would not keep them away from their business.

—Selected

REMODELING PROGRESSING AT STATE YOUTH CAMP

Dear Gem Readers and Camp Workers:

I will take time out to write you the news of the Youth Camp. For some time I have planned to to so.

Everything is moving along nicely, considering the weather conditions. We have most of the concrete poured and are waiting now for warmer weather to pour the walls of the swimming pool above the ground. We have it up to the top of the ground now. Our lumber for the buildings is in the

forms at the pool. We have the walls for the restrooms and showers up ready for the roof, the foundation is ready for the kitchen, windows and doors are in the dining hall and lights are installed, a shower and stool is in the cottage, and pipe lines are in to the bath houses and the pool.

The Board plans to meet February 15 to lay plans for spring and summer camp programs.

Financial Report

Received August 1-54 to January 15-55

GENERAL FUND—

Merl's Chapel S.S.	\$ 84.06
Kenneth Allred, Monett .	125.00
Monett Church	18.87
C.W. Mo. 5th S. Meeting	27.10
Fourth Church, St. Louis	5.00
Wagoner	3.25
Hazel Creek	14.60
New Prospect	6.14
Independence	50.00
State Treasurer	87.40
Brotherhood Mutual ...	4.00
H. Alexander, Niangua .	5.00
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Total Receipts	\$391.76
Forwarded from '53-'54	117.24
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Total in General Fund	\$509.00

EXPENDITURES—

Abstract on Camp	\$ 29.25
Mileage paid	42.10
Phone calls	16.92
Electricity	48.81
Repair supplies	13.95
Food for laborers	14.84
General expense	54.87
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Total Expenditures	\$220.74
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Balance 1-15-55	\$288.26

REMODELING FUND

Emmit Cummins (special treasurer)	
Received (loan) 11-4-54	\$5,000.00

EXPENDITURES—

Materials & supplies	\$1,898.10
Labor	1,015.82
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Total	2,913.92
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Balance on hand	\$2,080.08

/s/ Rev. Wm. Reeves, treasurer

WHAT THE CHURCH CAN DO THROUGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Bible is composed of 66 books. Although men's hands have penned the words, there is only one author—God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth and all they contain.

He had a very definite purpose in every creative act of His hand, and gave to man the highest purpose in life. To fulfil this purpose we must be true to ourselves and seek the things that will mold our character according to the specifications of our God.

To serve Him we must accept Him as He is revealed in the Bible. Unless we know His word, how can we accept Him as He is revealed? Many people do not really know what they believe. The world in which we live demands a better understanding of the basic truths and principles of Christianity.

The love of God surpasses the understanding of man. It is not meant to be perfectly understood. But we can understand the basic truths and principles of how we are to serve Him.

The church can help the people come to understand these truths by letting the Sunday School be the study period or teaching hours.

Preaching and teaching go hand in hand. To preach means to deliver a sermon. To teach is to instruct. Psa. 25:4 "Shew me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths."

Sunday School, using the Bible as a rule and guide for our faith and practice, can instruct the people how to live for God from the cradle to the grave.

Beginning with the card class, we can develop their spiritual life with the milk and honey of God's word; advancing with them through the years until they are ready for the strong meat of God's word.

Sunday School is a very important way the Church can bring the Word of God to the unsaved. Psa. 51:13 says, "Then will I teach the transgressor thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee."

Studying their Sunday School

lessons is the only Bible reading done by a number of people. Some use their Sunday School lesson as a Bible reading guide. Reading and discussing the Bible with others helps us to a better understanding of God's word.

The Ethiopian was reading the prophets and when Philip asked him, "Understandest thou what thou readest?" he said, "How can I except some man should guide me?"

Our need for God and His word is a very pressing need. Heb. 5:12 tells us, "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again, which be the first principles of the oracle of God; and are become such as have need of milk and not strong meat."

Sunday School builds up church attendance. It is good training for the young and old alike, in that it gives everyone a chance to take a part in the discussions and carrying on of God's work. Bible reading in the home is encouraged and new leaders and teachers are trained.

The fate of the world depends upon our being true to the trust of our Lord. But we must know the story before we can tell it.

Col. 1:28 gives us, "Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus."

Carla Korjan - Mer Rouge, La.

GOWERS TO TEXAS

Huntsville, Texas

Dear Co-Workers:

Greetings in the name of our Wonderful Saviour.

I am writing our dear friends of Missouri and other places concerning our little church here in Huntsville. We have at last secured a pastor, that will move here, and he is coming by faith. He and his wife are well accomplished people. They took training in Nashville, Tennessee at our Bible College. Their names are Bro. and Sis. Huey Gower. They have one child—a sweet little girl six years of age.

This is what I am trying to say: I am asking a number of our friends to give \$1.00 per month, for a year. Some

can give all this at once, while others cannot. I have already received several checks, for the full amount, and we will appreciate it any way you feel led to give. If auxiliaries would give \$1.00 per month, or Sunday School classes, it would be a wonderful way to do home mission work. This church is in a school town. The state prison is located here. If we lose this church it will be hard to ever get another one started here.

We resigned as pastor here over three years ago and went to Florida but didn't locate as we expected. We came back here but didn't take the church. We have had several pastors, but none to locate here. Now we have one in our midst. So we expect to go forward. But we need financial help for a little while until we can build up. So join us in prayer and please don't read this and lay it aside, but do help us, and may God bless all that read this and touch their hearts to give. Send your gifts to Miss Tommie Franklin, 1008 Ave. L, Huntsville, Texas. Make your check to the Free Will Baptist Church, or you may send your check to me at 1304 Tenth Street. Any one of us will do. With love and prayers.

Yours for Jesus,

Lizzie McAdams.

FUNDAMENTAL METHODISTS START RADIO PROGRAM

We are in receipt of information the Fundamental Methodist will initiate a radio program over station KWTO in Springfield, Missouri, starting February 6, 1955, and will be heard each Sunday afternoon from 2:05 to 2:30 p. m. The program will be known as The Old Time Gospel Program, and will feature Rev. Roy Keith as the principal speaker. Rev. Keith is chairman of the incorporation.

Fundamental Methodists found it necessary some time ago to depart from some of the inconsistencies of the present day high order of Methodism in order to worship God according to the literal interpretation of some of the basic Scriptures. Their views are presently identical to those of Free Will Baptists. Ministers of the two groups work together in evangelistic efforts. Your editor recommends that you listen to this program.