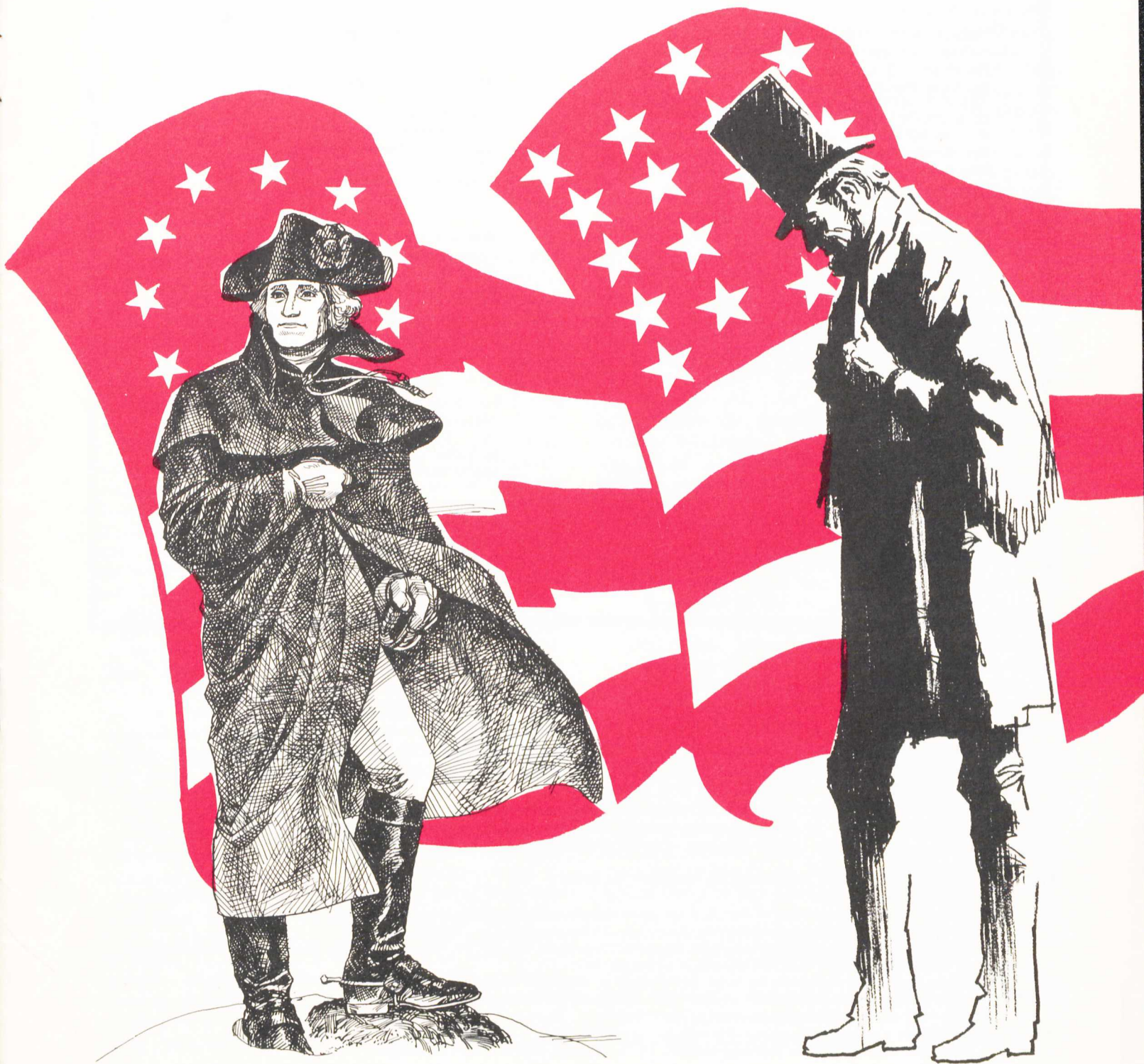


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Free Will Baptist

February, 1974
Volume 44
Number 2

Gem



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Rebellion's Downward Path

by Rev. James McAllister
Jonah 1:1-17

Jonah was a preacher. His job was to preach. His duty was to be ready at any time to preach, anywhere. It is not surprising that God should call a preacher to preach His message where it was needed. THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO JONAH . . . This was the Lord speaking and men ought to always listen when our Lord speaks. ARISE . . . Jonah was possibly resting. God says I have a commission for you. GO TO NINEVAH THAT GREAT CITY AND CRY AGAINST IT. Their wickedness is come up before God. Their wickedness was a bold and open affront to God. There Jonah was to cry out against sin because He was the preacher of the Lord, and his duty was to preach against sin. It is always the Christian's duty to stand against sin and to warn against sin. By doing this he saved some from Hell. So we see God's call to Jonah to go preach.

In the third verse the Bible says, "But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord." He arose, but not to go preach. He arose to flee from the presence of the Lord. Obviously he had not learned the lesson of Job. He said, "He is everywhere." Jonah went down to Joppa and caught a ship to Tarshish. Thus we see his *first* step downward. He was going directly opposite from where the Lord had sent him.

The devil's way is always diametrically opposite to God's way. It may appear the same or seem similar, but it is always opposite. Jonah paid to take a ship to Tarshish. He did not particularly want to go to Tarshish, but there was a boat going that way so he paid to ride it. When a man is running from God he is not practical in how he spends his money. He cared not. His only desire was to get out of the presence of the Lord. So he went with the mariners. He was a royal messenger of God. His rebellion makes him become a companion of sinners. He went down into the innermost part of the ship . . . He

takes his *second* step down, trying to hide himself . . . He did everything possible trying to hide himself. He went to sleep . . . He became asleep to everything around him. So it is with the backslider, he sees not the condition of the world but sleeps on, ignorant to the eminent danger.

But notice that a storm came up . . . It threatened to wreck the ship. When the preacher is asleep, sin does always conquer. Notice what the mariners did. They cast everything unnecessary overboard. Each man cried out to his particular god. They awakened Jonah and told him to call on his God. They cast lots to see who was to blame. And the lot fell upon Jonah. They asked Him who he was and what he had done. Jonah said, "I am an Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the God of Heaven." Isn't it amazing how when a backslider goes away from God, even though he lives as though he never fears God or His wrath, he will quickly acknowledge that he knows God, and fears Him, and knows what he should be doing. They asked him what they should do and he told them to cast him into the sea. They didn't want to do this, so they rowed harder; but the storm became more turbulent. They stopped rowing and began praying to the Lord. "We beseech you, O Lord, let us not perish for this man's life and lay not upon us another's blood." So they took up Jonah and cast him forth down into the sea and the sea ceased from her raging. Thus we see the *third* downward step of Jonah. This time it was not his doing. In verse 17 we see the all-seeing and all-knowing ability of the Lord: "Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah." You see the Lord knew what was going to happen and had prepared a fish to swallow him, and so we see Jonah going down again. This time he went down into the belly of the fish. Now notice the following lessons:

1. A disciple rebelling against God.
2. God pursuing him and his chances to return.
3. The effect of a backslider on the world and especially on the church.
4. What happened when he was cast out of the boat, and what happens when the backslider is cast out of the church. (But everything should be done before casting him out of the church.)
5. God capturing the backslider. This is very similar to the story Jesus told of the prodigal son being caught in the pig pen.

You can rebel against God in many different ways. But the Scripture says, "He that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is a sin."

Oh how I pray that you won't be guilty of rebelling against God. Get involved in doing His work today. Souls are lost, and maybe we can win a few of them to the Lord before it is too late.

Copied from the Monett Church publication,
THE LAMPLIGHTER, October, 1973

Rev. James McAllister is pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Monett. He is also moderator of the Missouri State Association.

The Joy of "Tithing-Plus" Stewardship

A stewardship testimony of Mrs. Minnie Pearl Thomas, a member of the Olivet Free Will Baptist Church, Marshall, Missouri, as told to the Editor.

Minnie Thomas has been a tither for more than 20 years, but only in the last four years has she experienced the joy of "tithing-plus" stewardship. "Tithing-plus" stewardship is the concept that a Christian has given nothing to the Lord until he gives above his tithe, because the tithe is the Lord's and the conscientious Christian is obligated by a sense of loving obedience to pay his tithes. What he gives to the Lord's work above his tithes he gives not out of any sense of duty or obligation but simply because he wants to.

Minnie Thomas wanted to increase her giving to the Lord's work so badly that, at an age when most people are thinking of retiring, she began to pray for a second job to provide the additional money she wanted to be able to support her church and denominational mission program. But that is getting ahead of our story. Let us go back and see what brought her to this point of Christian dedication.

Minnie was saved the first time she ever heard the gospel preached although she was already grown and married at the time. The first five years of her Christian life, she failed to grow significantly in the faith because of lack of fellowship and participation in her church. "Those were difficult years as a Christian," she said, "having the Holy Spirit indwelling my heart trying to lead me and chastising me but without much ambition on my part to be a good Christian."

She at last grew weary of this half-hearted effort on her part to live for the Lord and rededicated her life to Him. At this time she agreed to teach a Sunday school class, become more regular in church attendance, and for the first time in her life started tithing. But by her own admission, she tithed legalistically, just out of a sense of duty.

In 1968 Minnie and her husband, Bob, moved to Marshall, Missouri, and soon joined the Olivet Free Will Baptist Church. Under the faithful example and instruction of Pastor Cliff Bowman, Minnie's Christian life began to bloom. She began to serve the Lord more than ever before in her life, and about this time her motives began to change as well. She found she was getting more joy from her Christian life because she was serving the Lord and because she loved Him and wanted to do more for Him. She had now begun "tithing-plus" giving. And, strangely enough, she found herself wanting to do more and more for the Lord.

Her husband had been disabled in 1962. So she worked, out of necessity, to add to his small pension. But, her holding down a full-time job did not quench her desire to be able to do more for the Lord's work. She actually applied for a second job with the intention of giving all her income from it to the Lord.

She did not get the second job but instead took a cake decorating class and soon found herself getting orders for cakes. What started out to be a hobby grew into a missionary enterprise. From the profits of the cake decorating, crocheting, and making bead jewelry, Minnie Thomas now sends at least \$5.00 per month to *each* Missouri State Home Mission project in Independence, Columbia, Jefferson City, and Cape Girardeau; to foreign mission accounts of Bobby Poole, Jerry Pinkerton, Mable Willey, Howard Filkins, Jim McLain, and Lonnie Sparks; to National Home missionary Larry Powell and the Home Mission Loan Fund.

All of this is, of course, above her regular tithes which go into her local church. It is also above other outside giving for special church projects, revivals, Woman's Auxiliary, etc. She pledged \$100 recently, for example, to the State College Fund.

When I asked Mrs. Thomas for an interview about her stewardship, she replied, "I don't know why you would want to interview me. I do so little for the Lord." After hearing her story, I thought, "So little for the Lord?" Yes, maybe in the same way as the widow's two mites whose offering caught Jesus' eye; but, compared to the American way of getting all you can and spending all you get, offerings totaling \$150 to \$200 per month from a \$100-a-week nurse is not a little.

"Sometimes, the first of the month, I don't see how we can pay all the bills," Minnie told me, "but it always works out victoriously. It doesn't figure out in black and white, but it always works out."

"When I think about what Jesus did for me," she went on, "I do so little in return. And besides, I figure I am the gainer not the loser when I give my money and time to the Lord. I believe I have grown spiritually in proportion to the way my giving percentage has grown."

When I asked Mrs. Thomas how she would respond if someone told her they could not afford to tithe, she replied, "People are dissatisfied and complaining because they don't mind the Lord. They need the joy of giving. They are broke all the time because they don't give the Lord His part. To really give something to the Lord besides what belongs to Him is where the joy is. I wouldn't trade my life for the life of people who aren't living for the Lord, regardless of what they've got."

The thoughts for this article came while I was listening to an audience participation program on the local radio station. One lady called and began to tell of the beauties of a nearby state park which she had visited and she told of the beautiful trees, flowers, wild birds, etc. Immediately after her call, another lady called and said that she too had visited

Salvation: A Fire Escape From Hell or a Stairway to Heaven?

*by Mrs. Robert Reeves
Farmington, Missouri*

the same park, but her impressions were quite different. She complained of the rough, dirty, and dusty roads. She had spent so much of her time fussing about dusty roads that she had failed to see the beauty of nature around her. One of the ladies had been looking up while the other had been looking down. As I thought of the difference in the conversations of the two ladies, I began to compare them with different Christians that I had come in contact with since I had begun serving the Lord.

What does salvation mean to you? This is a question that all professing Christians answer. Not

audibly, always, but by the lives that they live after accepting Christ's gift to mankind.

First, let us examine the first attitude—a fire escape from Hell. Many people use Christ's sacrifice as just this and of course it is a good reason to do so. Over and over in the Bible we are warned of the consequences of not accepting Christ as Savior. We are told of the awfulness of Hell: how it was originally planned for the devil and his angels; but, because of the sinfulness and rebellion of man, its boundaries have had to be enlarged. The Bible tells us that Hell is a bottomless pit, burning with fire and brimstone; that it is dark; that there is no escape after we get there; and, perhaps worst of all, while we are there we will still be able to feel pain and remember. Remember that the reason we are there is because we refused to heed the warnings that had been given us while we were on earth. We will have no one else to blame; we will have to carry the load of guilt, pain, and shame ourselves. There will be no one else to help carry it, and Satan will mock and laugh at us for being so foolish as to have listened to his claims. So as we contemplate on the horrors of Hell we find good reason to use our salvation as a fire escape from Hell.

Now let us look at the other outlook—a stairway to Heaven. This type of people also have escaped the horrors of Hell, but they have an entirely different view of their salvation experience. They are spending their time going somewhere rather than just escaping from someplace. Their attitudes for the most part are quite different. Their service is done from a heart of love and gratitude. They work gladly for Jesus, because they keep the end of the road in view at all times. For the most part this is the type of Christian that you will find in churches that are the hardest workers, and they are also the happiest workers. They are the ones who do the job that needs to be done without grumbling and complaining. Each day becomes a new opportunity to do something for their beloved Savior and each day brings them one step closer to Jesus and their eternal home. They are not working to earn their salvation: they already have that. They are working because they love Jesus, and they are unselfish and want to share with others the joy and peace that they found when they accepted Jesus.

So, in conclusion, we find two types of Christians. They have all accepted Christ as Savior, but their outlook on life and eternity is different. One feels perhaps that he has done all that is necessary. He has done what the Bible said. He has accepted Christ as his Savior and feels that his part is done, while the other Christian feels that salvation is the first step on his way to glory. He is always looking up, he never feels that he has done enough to show Jesus how much he loves Him. One cheats himself of the blessings that he could receive by serving Jesus completely while the other is enjoying all that Jesus has for him in this life and living with the joy of knowing that this is just the beginning of what Jesus has in store for him.

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

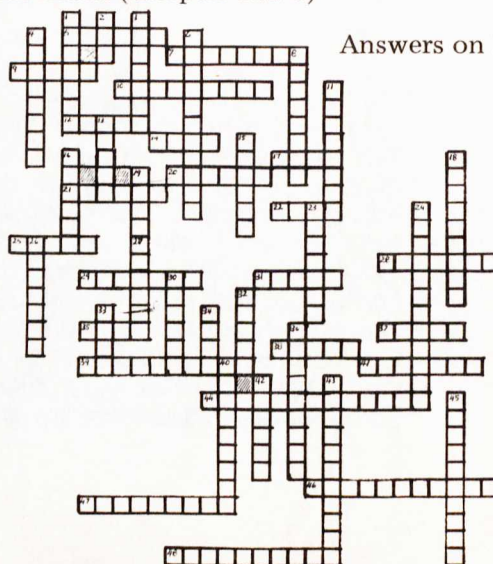
ACROSS

5. This book of Moses tells the history of Israel from Joseph's death to the setting up of the Tabernacle.
7. A book whose central theme is the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem.
9. The author, whose name the book bears, was the son or Beeri.
10. Book of Moses named for the tribe of Levi and bearing a digest of divine laws.
12. Written by Solomon and often referred to as Solomon's _____. (Pl.)
14. This book is named for its writer, a prophet, who records five visions; (1) of locusts, (2) of fire, (3) of plumbline, (4) of a basket of summer fruit, and (5) of a smitten sanctuary.
17. One of the Gospels. Its writer was a medical doctor.
20. In this book you find this famous Scripture verse, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."
21. Two books bear this name. The first book contains an account of the failure of Eli as Judge and parent and the second book tells of David being anointed as king of Israel.
22. This book is named for its author who was referred to as the disciple whom Jesus loved.
25. This book bears the name of its author whose name is found in Jeremiah 26:18.
28. Named for its author, this book gives the account of several of his visions, one of which is the famous "Wheel Within A Wheel."
29. From this book we find a man robs God by failing to pay tithes and give offerings.
31. In this book, named for its author, we have the New Testament plan for divine healing. "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord."
35. The author of this book which bears his name, could have been the brother of our Lord. (Mark 6:3)
37. Paul wrote this book as a letter to a friend and helper. (2 Corinthians 2:13)
38. Two books bear the same name. The name of their author who once denied his Lord.
39. Two books by the same name and are third in a series of double books in the Old Testament.
41. Paul wrote these books as letters to a young minister for whom the books are named.
44. Paul wrote these books to the church for which they are named.
46. Paul wrote this book as a letter to the church at Phillipi.
47. Another of Paul's letters to later become a book. The book contains the great faith chapter. (Chaper 3)

48. Paul wrote this letter to the church at Colosse.
DOWN

1. Moses wrote it about beginnings.
2. Considered the oldest book in the Bible.
3. The name of this book derived from the numberings of Israel.
4. Solomon wrote most of these short discourses of wisdom called_____.
6. A book of Moses repeating the law just before the crossing of Jordon into Caanan.
8. A key verse of this book is, "I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved." (Chapter 2, verse 1)
11. Written by Paul as a letter to his friend, this book contains the story of Onesimus, the runaway slave.
13. This book tells the story of the destruction of Nineveh.
15. This book is named for its writer who is famous for his sleeping in the lion's den all night without harm.
16. This book, probably written by the man whose name it bears, contains the story of Achan and the Babylonish garment, 200 shekels of silver and a golden wedge.
18. Named for its author who was a prophet and the son of Cushi, this book was written in the days of Josiah, king of Judah.
19. The book bears the name of its writer, known as "The Weeping Prophet."
23. The 9th chapter and verse 27 of this book reads, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."
24. This book was written by Jeremiah in which he laments the ruin of Jerusalem.
26. A short book named for its author who had a vision of the destruction of Edom. (Chapter 1, verse 1)
30. This book was named for the prophet who wrote it. He is noted for his prophecy to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, concerning the rebuilding of the Temple. He declared the people earned wages and put them into a bag with holes. (Chapter 1:1-6)

Answers on Page 11



32. Two books bear this name. The first book contains the famous account of King Solomon's request of God for wisdom to lead his people. (1st book 3:5-14)
33. The book bears the name of a young lady who was a Moabite, a Gentile, who became an ancestor of our Lord.
34. This book named for its author, was quoted by Peter in Acts chapter 2.
36. The author, after whom the book is named, prophesied with Haggai arousing the Jews to rebuild the Temple at Jerusalem. (Ezra 6:14)
40. Written by Paul to the church at Ephesus.
42. A book of hymns, many of which are written by David.
43. Paul wrote these two books as letters to the church for which they are named.
45. John wrote this book while on the Isle of Patmos.

DECEMBER COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

West Plains First F.W.B.	\$134.95
Hannon	112.00
New Rock Springs	40.00
Willow Springs, Nov	114.63
Viburnum	50.00
Hurryville	77.20
Salem	20.00
Pleasant Ridge	30.50
Columbia	68.00
Marshfield	86.20
Farmington, First	237.20
Gateway	12.97
Aurora	36.00
First FWB Mission, Kansas City	32.00
Garfield	24.04
Rock Chapel	39.85
DeSoto, First	275.00
Olivet	130.00
Belton	142.00
Union Grove Mission	130.00
Faith,	131.33
Leadington	114.54
Verdella	51.95
Monett, First	207.61
Black Oak	30.00
Houston	85.00
Copper Mines	105.00
Merl's Chapel	111.57
Central, Kansas City	150.00
Purdy, First	43.58
Thayer	86.40
Calvary	104.00
Happy Home	23.00
Parkview	50.00
Olivet	130.00
Total DECEMBER receipts	\$3,216.52

DECEMBER DISBURSEMENTS

20.00% Mo. Missions	\$643.30
15.00% Mo. Promotional Dept.	482.48
05.50% Mo. Youth Camp	176.91
04.00% Mo. General Fund	128.66
04.00% Mo. State College Commission	128.66
02.50% Mo. Gem	80.41
01.00% Mo. C.T.S. & S.S.	32.16
52% seven State	1,672.58
07.00% Hillsdale	225.16

13.00% Foreign Missions	418.15
09.00% F.W.B. Bible College	289.49
07.00% National Executive Dept.	225.16
06.50% Nat'l Home Missions	209.07
03.00% Nat'l C.T.S. Dept.	96.50
02.00% Dept. of Retirement and Insurance	64.33
Layman's Board	8.04
00.25% Theological Comm.	8.04
41.00% (8 Depts.)	1,318.78
100% Disbursed	\$3,216.52

Missouri State Home Mission Giving:
December 5, 1973 thru January 5, 1974

Rock Chapel	40.00
Kansas City, First	75.00
Mine La Motte	20.00
Olivet	550.00
Hannon	62.00
New Home	30.00
South Side	12.00
Salem	20.00
Belton	71.00
So. Fremont	90.00
Hartville	10.00
Leadington	32.03
Central	20.00
DeSoto, First	40.00
Willow Springs	13.00
Myrtle	14.05
Thayer	13.00
Verdella	16.00
Wanda Perryman	2.00
Mo. State Woman's Aux.	59.75
Fredericktown, First	20.00
Independence	10.00
Low Ground	5.00
Hurryville	30.00
Victory	136.50
Parkville	15.00
Union Light	33.00
Fellowship	37.00
New Rock Springs	25.50
Aurora	5.01
Viburnum	25.00
Cabool	30.00
Houston	66.95
Cooperative Receipts	643.30
Total	\$2,272.09

Secretary-Treasurer
Rev. Lawrence Thompson
3416 N. Bellefontaine
Kansas City, Mo. 64117

DESIGNATED GIVING THROUGH STATE OFFICE December, 1973

Aurora Church	
Four Foreign Missions accounts	40.00
Three National Home Missions accounts	18.00
Missouri State Missions	5.01

Olivet Church of Marshall	
Five Foreign Missions accounts	120.00
Two National Home Mission accounts	50.00

Merl's Chapel Church of Cassville	
Youth Camp	5.00
Three Foreign Missions accounts	89.06
From Promotional Secretary for phone	12.76
Total Received	339.83

CHURCHES PEOPLE and EVENTS

TIM EATON ORDAINED

Timothy Eaton was ordained to preach the gospel at the Joplin FWB Church Thursday night, December 27. A large crowd was present to hear Rev. Homer Young preach the message. James McAllister gave the charge. Billy Gentry was in charge of the service and James McCully prayed the dedication prayer. The executive board of the Indian Creek Association, consisting of Gentry, McAllister, and McCully, were joined by Bud Eaton and Leslie Eaton who filled in for absent members Elmer Johnson and Tom Carlson. Special music was given by Mrs. Colleen Reynolds and by the Joplin Women's Trio.

Brother Tim, a student at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in Moore, Oklahoma, has accepted a position with the Ardmore, Oklahoma Free Will Baptist Church.

PASTOR DALE JONES SUFFERS FATAL HEART ATTACK

by State Association Moderator, James McAllister

The General Board, the Missouri State Association, and the Central FWB Church of Kansas City have all lost a good preacher and member. Brother Dale Jones who went to be with the Lord Saturday evening, December 14, had served as a member of the State Association General Board for several years. He served as General Board representative from both the Liberty and the Greater Kansas City Associations. He had served two years as Assistant Clerk of the Missouri State Association. Twice Brother Jones was State Youth Camp Evangelist and twice he preached before the State Convention. He was a close personal friend to every preacher in our State Association. We will miss his warm sense of humor, his friendship, his council, and his preaching. May God bless his memory to all of us.

MONETT CHURCH GROWING

Pastor Jim McAllister reports that the Monett FWB Church continues to grow and souls continue

to be saved through the church's aggressive ministry in this southwest Missouri town. The 1973 Sunday school average was 208 and the morning worship service attendance average for the year was 231. Monett has three buses and a children's church.

RECORDS BROKEN AT VICTORY

December 16 was a record breaking day at the Victory FWB Church in Avondale, Missouri. There were 273 present for Sunday school and 309 present for the morning worship service. Fourteen people were saved and 10 rededicated their lives to the Lord. The Singing Ledbetters of Wichita, Kansas, were guests at the Victory Church for the day.

"It is an exciting time here at Victory," writes corresponding secretary, Karen Hensley. "Even though bad weather has hindered us in our building program, we hope to be in our new church by early summer."

The 1973 statistics for Victory reveal the growth the church has experienced: Sunday school attendance average for the year 178; morning worship average 204; bus riders averaged 86 per week; a total of 41 persons united with the church; and 258 persons made decisions in the services, 130 of them first-time decisions. The church's offerings for the year totaled \$44,950.60, which is a weekly average of \$864.43.

Rev. Lawrence Thompson is the pastor.

PASTOR JAMES STOVALL MYRTLE CHURCH

Rev. James Stovall, formerly the assistant pastor of the Olivet FWB Church in Marshall has assumed his duties as pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church of Myrtle, Missouri.

"Pray for us," writes the church clerk, Mrs. Bernice Cantrell, "that our attendance will go up and we will see souls saved. Pray that as a church we will have a great burden for the unsaved."

THEME FOR 1974 STATE CONVENTION CHOSEN

The Executive Committee of the General Board of the State Association met last month in Lebanon and began making plans for the 1974 State Convention. "I Must Work . . . While It Is Day" was chosen as the theme for the August 20-22 associational meeting to be held with the First FWB Church of Flat River.

The four messages chosen by the committee to carry out the theme were: (1) "Signs of the End Time"; (2) "Coming to Grips With the Urgency of This Hour"; (3) "The Unfinished Task"; and (4) "The Laborer's Reward." Speakers will be announced later.

FWBBC LIBRARY WING PROJECT CATCHES ON IN STATE

Rev. Bob King who works with the Director of

Development at Free Will Baptist Bible College told the State Executive Committee on their meeting last month that the Library Wing Project which our State Association adopted last August is catching on in all parts of the state.

King said more than \$6,000 had come in in cash and more than \$50,000 in firm commitments had been made toward the \$125,000 goal.

Two special events planned for the coming months are designed to boost the total cash and commitments nearer the projected goal. The Drama Tour scheduled for March 23-29 should not only better acquaint Missouri Free Will Baptists with the school and students and rally financial support for the project, but should also prove a tremendous spiritual blessing to those attending the production. Churches hosting the Drama Tour include West Plains, Springfield's South Fremont, Mountain Grove First, Monett First, Berkeley First, and Farmington First. Other Participating churches had not been confirmed at press time.

The second rallying event scheduled by the college promoters for this spring include 25 Walk-A-Thons for the Bible College in the state before June 8. Pastors and youth directors of our Missouri churches are encouraged to plan a Walk-A-Thon for your youth. Suggestions for conducting a Walk-A-Thon may be obtained by writing the College's Office of Development, 3606 West End Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee 37205.

Every Church in the state is urged to do something toward the Library Wing Project. Have you made your plans yet?

FROM THE McLAINS IN JAPAN

"We appreciate the way Missouri has stood behind us and given to our account and prayed for us. I wish we could report that we have a new work started. But it seemed we ran into problems everywhere we turned. We looked for a place to live in an area where we could start a work, but were unsuccessful, so we finally settled for a place to winter. We have started back to language school in a refresher course and to take some advanced language we never had before. It is good to get the wheels in our brains revolving again and we do feel that we can give this winter to concentrating on language study and perhaps by spring when many companies make transfer of personnel, we will be able to find a place in an area where we can begin a work. Pray for us that we will be led to the right place.

"We enjoyed the holidays, spending some of our holiday time sledding and skiing down a good hill nearby. Over New Year's almost all the businesses are closed from the 31st to January 4. We had to lay in a supply of bread, milk, and I got extra cans of kerosene so we wouldn't run out. Our kerosene man said it was a good idea anyway because next month there might be a pinch. We can't see that the Japanese are trying to cut down very much, but perhaps we are just too critical. Japan imports

99.7% of its oil so they quickly joined the Arabs as their friends. Economically the Japanese are scared. The dollar has gone up in value, but not as fast as the prices. Prices have gone up a lot since we've been here, and we are promised more advances after the first of the year. Everyone blames the oil shortage for the high prices, but so far there has been no shortage. But the Lord has a purpose for this. Materialism is the real god of Japan and we might have a better opportunity in our work if people realize there is no security in the things of this world. Their living has become quite easy, but there are no doubt many problems ahead for all of us. We are trusting the Lord for His perfect will to be done. Do pray for us that we might be true to Him and will be used to glorify His Name."

In Christ,

(signed) Olena, Jim, Don, and Mary McLain.

FROM THE PINKERTONS IN SWITZERLAND

Exerpts from a letter from the Pinkertons to the GEM Family follows:

"Tim is doing just great. The Lord has been so good to us. It has been a wonder just to see how rapidly progress has been made. He will need one more operation, but it will not be done until later in '74. The truck driver's insurance has agreed to pay our way back here. We didn't want it done in Africa unless there wasn't another way. They say even a small scratch gets infected so easily there.

"If no other problems arise, Tim and Carol will be leaving January 9 from Geneva and arriving in Abidjan the same day. If you happen to hear a loud joyous sound about that time, it might be us. Jerry's boat is to leave the 20th of January but France is known for its strikes. Also it is a freighter and will not leave until full of cargo. The boat he was to take in August was delayed twice. Please pray with us that he will be able to get to Africa as quickly as possible.

"Carol will be staying in Bouake with a couple of boys she hasn't seen in a long time [referring to the Pinkerton's sons Howard and Junior who are already in Ivory Coast]. She will stay with the Filkins at the Ivory Coast Academy, so send all letters there please. The address is B. P. 1171, Bouake, Ivory Coast, West Africa."

(signed) The Pinkertons

FROM THE FULCHERS IN PANAMA

"The Lord continues to bless in our work here in Agua Buena. We recently completed a Sunday school campaign, and saw all previous attendance records broken by reaching 174 one Sunday. Our attendance continues to stay above 160 every week. It has been necessary to build another classroom onto the church, and all of our classes are needing more benches for the children. Many new children who were reached during our campaign continue to attend every Sunday. Attendance has also increased

in our night services, with 70-80 on Sunday nights, and 50 on Wednesdays. We praise the Lord that recently we have seen several souls saved. Several adults that have made decisions faithfully attend every service of the church and show real signs of spiritual growth. We especially are thrilled that the husband of one of our faithful women recently gave his heart to the Lord and attends every service with her and their seven children. He was one who drank and at times became very angry, forbidding his wife to attend the services. Praise the Lord for the change we have seen in his life! Please continue to pray for many more like him. We are looking to the Lord for great things here in this community as the precious Word penetrates into sinful hearts.

"Thanks to all of you who helped us pray concerning the request we made in our last newsletter regarding a house nearer to our work. The Lord wonderfully opened up a very nice house right across the highway from our church. We had looked at this house so many times and thought how convenient and helpful it would be to live there, but it was never available. Then one day we were advised that we could rent it the first of December if we were interested. So we are now all moved in and are looking forward to greater things from the Lord as we live here in the community with our people. Considering the high rent here in Panama, we feel very fortunate to have all this for \$250 a month. It is almost impossible to find a house with at least 3 bedrooms under \$300. Praise the Lord with us for this provision, and pray with us for a great harvest of souls.

"Once again we thank you for your financial support to our account. May the Lord richly reward you for your concern in spreading the Gospel here in Panama. We continue to depend on you to help bear the financial load of this work.

(signed) The Fulchers.

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS GIVING FROM MISSOURI

Forty-three individuals and churches contributed to National Home Missions from the State of Missouri during November and December. Total gifts for the two months totaled \$3,155.75, which brought Missouri's total National Home Missions giving for the year to \$19,463.29, or \$2,463.29 over our \$17,000 quota.

Congratulations to us. Praise the Lord for all who helped with this impressive total.

SPRING ENLARGEMENT CAMPAIGN

The National Sunday School Department has announced plans for a National Sunday School Campaign next month. The national theme is "I Will Build My Church."

Sunday schools will be arranged in accordance with the following table for competitive purposes:

Division A	over 500 average
Division B	400-500 average

Division C	300-399 average
Division D	200-299 average
Division E	150-199 average
Division F	100-149 average
Division G	50-99 average
Division H	under 49 average

The Spring Enlargement Campaign will begin on Sunday, March 3, and continue through Sunday, March 31, 1974. Sunday schools in each division who experience the greatest percentage of gain over the thirteen weeks average attendance for October-November-December, 1973, will be declared winners and awarded appropriate plaques denoting first and second place.

The present size of your Sunday school does not hinder you from being eligible to win in your division. Campaign materials are available from the Sunday School Department. March 1, 1974 is the deadline for entry. Let's have some Missouri winners!

Missouri State Home Missions Need You!

By Rev. Cliff Bowman, Chairman, Missouri State Home Mission Board

Numerous times since I have been serving on the Missouri State Home Missions Board, the telephone has rung, or a letter has come or someone has stopped me and I have heard welcome words: "What can I do for our state Home Missions Program?" or "How can I become more involved" or "Are there some special needs that we can share?"

Please let me share with all who are concerned with the great commission, which includes home missions, a few of the ways in which you can help our home missions program. First and foremost among our list of needs is sincere, earnest, and dedicated prayer warriors. By this I mean folk who will enter the throne room *daily* and make intercession for our missions program as a whole. I will list a few in a list of many things to pray about. 1. Pray that our God will baptize our missionaries with power: power to witness the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, to overcome discouragement, to take a stand in righteousness, and then when having done all to take that stand then for power to stand, and to endure persecution, ridicule, and intimidations. 2. Then pray the Lord to give them wisdom: Wisdom to know how to deal with the many problems of organizing a new work, to deal with personal problems which arise daily, and to discipline themselves. 3. Pray for each member of the Home Missions Board; pray God will raise up a people to share the burden of getting a FWB church in every city in this great state of Missouri.

Another way in which you can help our missions program would be by getting personally acquainted with our missionaries and the burdens of their hearts. This can be done by following their reports at meetings and through our state paper *The Gem*,

but better yet, by a personal visit to their field of service or a letter will certainly encourage them and it will inform you.

Then of course there is always the need for finance. It takes money and lots of it to carry out the great commission of "go ye." I won't spend any time explaining the high cost of living for we all are personally acquainted with this, but I do want to say that it costs just as much for a missionary to buy a loaf of bread, a pound of meat, or a gallon of gas as it does for a banker, a farmer, a teacher, or as it does for you.

Besides the salary and living expenses there are many other needs once a missionary family reaches the field, such as an acceptable place to hold worship services. And, by the way, the days of starting a church in an old dilapidated store building on a back street, or in the Moose Hall, or the basement of someone's home is a thing of the past. That has worked in some instances in the past but people are so used to all the conveniences of this modern generation that a modern facility is a must and rightly so. Then there are needs for church furniture, song books, literature, etc., and all this calls for \$ \$ \$ \$ and more \$ \$.

There are new doors of opportunity opening every day. We hear the cry on every side, "Please help us get a FWB church started in our city." We the Home Missions Board are limited in what we can do. We can go only as far as you will help us go. I want to thank every individual, every church, and every auxiliary of the church for what you have done in the past. I speak for the Board and missionaries, past and present. God bless you, and I thank you in advance for what you plan to do in the future. But now I plead, if you have not been involved in the past and are not involved at the present, will you as an individual, a church, or an auxiliary consider becoming involved now, and continue to be involved; and, if you are involved at the present, consider becoming more involved in the future. *We need you. Missions is a must.*

We need you to pray consistently, earnestly, and to give systematically and sacrificially. "For we are labourers together with God" (1 Corinthians 3:9).

FROM THE CHILDREN'S HOME IN TENNESSEE

A new year is here. None of us know what it holds for us. It presents 365 days as pages in the book of life. Each page is clean. We will leave our imprint upon it. At the Free Will Baptist Home For Children we want this imprint to be the greatest year for the glory of God.

December 1973 was a wonderful month for us at the Home. The financial response from our people was very good. The children received a lot of nice presents. Many churches and individuals gave gifts to the children and the Home. Once again our people demonstrated their love and willingness to support

this child-care ministry. We appreciate what every one did for us.

Our newest addition is Jesse Riggs from Cove City, North Carolina. He came to live at the Home December 31, 1973. We are able to take children from other states. Those interested in information on the admission of children should write or call the Superintendent (615-639-9449). In answer to many inquiries children cannot be adopted from the Home.

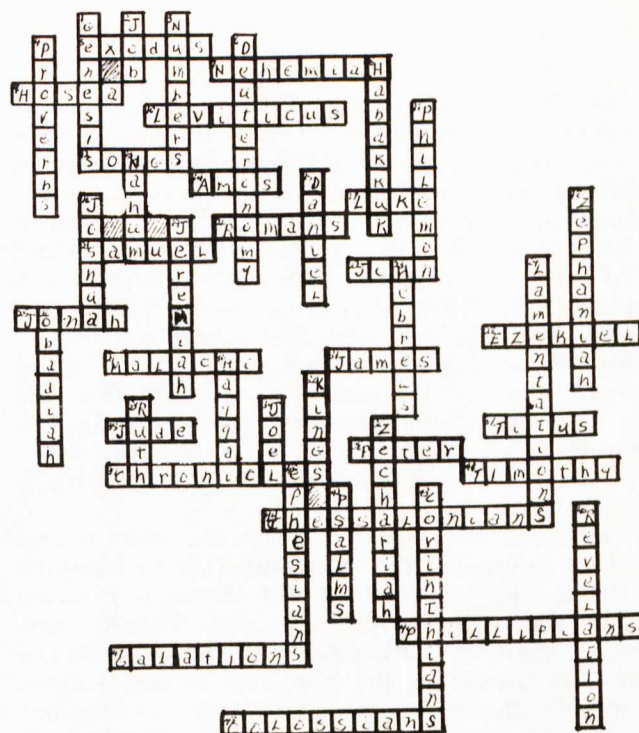
The Home has about 390 acres of land, 55 beef cattle, and at the present time 28 calves, 6 pigs, and several horses and ponies. All the children are in school, so the staff takes care of most of the work. The children work on a limited scale as time and circumstances permit.

I have been at the Home for seven months. It is most encouraging to see the way our people support the Free Will Baptist Home for Children. We praise the Lord for the marvelous way He is working.

Homecoming Day is May 11, 1974, at 10:00 a.m. Plan to come and bring a delegation from your church.

The support from Missouri in October was \$316.51 and November was \$277.47. We are grateful for what your state is doing for the Home.

James Earl Raper, Superintendent
Free Will Baptist Home For Children
Route 10, Box 327
Greeneville, Tennessee 37743



Promotional Secretary's Corner



by Rev. Harry Beatty

Saturday morning, December 1, I met with four members of Missouri CTS and Sunday School Boards at Lebanon Bible Store, aiding them in outlining the programs for both departments for up-coming events. Saturday afternoon I attended Liberty Quarterly Meeting, assembled with Gardner FWB Church. I gave the Cooperative Program and explained the 1974 allocations of the same. Two young ministers preached that afternoon: Darrell Shumate and David Perriman. They were issued license to preach the gospel. They received a nice love offering, given in behalf of Pastor Rolla Smith's daughter who is ill and living in another state, remembering that Jesus said, "I was sick and you visited me."

I attended two services of the one week revival meeting conducted by Evangelist Tommy Brashear in the Springfield First Church. Souls were saved during this revival. The climaxing feature came Sunday afternoon, December 2, in the dedication of their new House of the Lord. Pastor Henry Long delivered the dedicatory sermon. Twenty-five ministers, several deacons, plus a full house of other Christians and friends were present to share in this service.

Sunday morning, December 2, I delivered the

sermon in Grant Avenue Church in Springfield. Pastor Rolla Smith reports souls being saved and new members received into their fellowship and their Sunday school attendance climbing. The first Sunday they give a special offering to missions. They also give monthly support to Missouri Cooperative Plan. We enjoyed a good service.

We enjoyed another good service Sunday evening with Pastor Gene Terry and King's Way Free Will Baptist Church. Their new church 80' x 40' is located at 2695 Park Street in the west section of Springfield, approximately one quarter mile from Interstate Highway 44. They dedicated their new building recently. One soul was saved Sunday morning in the altar service. New members have been added to their fellowship recently.

Wednesday evening, December 5, I filled the pulpit in Gateway Church for Pastor McFarland who was ill. They have some new people in their congregation too.

Pastor Leslie Logsdon was promoted to glory. He died in an automobile accident December 3. Rev. Harry Asher conducted the funeral service in the funeral chapel in Potosi, Missouri, Friday, December 7. Twenty FWB ministers attending were seated in a group and recognized as honorary pallbearers. Many other Christians and neighbors in Southeast Missouri Association area and the members of the newly organized Divine Trinity FWB Church, which Brother Logsdon pastored, were present to pay their last respects to this man of God. Mrs. Logsdon was seriously injured in the accident and remained in the hospital, unable to attend the funeral. We extend our Christian sympathy and prayer to the Logsdon family.

Sunday evening, December 9, I visited Bible FWB Church and Pastor Dann to encourage them in the Lord. We held an early prayer service. Pastor Dann witnessed two souls saved in their Sunday morning service. Some have affiliated with their church recently.

Sunday evening, December 16, I was privileged to bring the sermon in Calvary Fellowship FWB Church. Three young people rededicated their lives to the service of God. Pastor Hanson won one to the Lord in his home before the evening service. Ten new members joined the church. The church is rearranging the first floor into a sanctuary. The work is progressing and souls are being saved.

We extend our sincere Christian sympathy to the family of Pastor Dale Jones, and Central FWB Church due to the untimely death of this beloved minister, Tuesday, December 18. Memorial services were conducted by Rev. O. T. Dixon in Lebanon, Missouri. Thirty-six FWB ministers from every section of Missouri were seated as honorary ministers in a group, plus other ministers of other churches and hosts of brethren from many former pastorates in Missouri.

Cave Springs Ministers Conference assembled with Byrd Church near Myrtle on December 22 for their quarterly topic discussion. Myrtle's new pastor,

James Stovall, and Darrell Strain shared the preaching time at 11:00 a.m. and Brother Beatty preached at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was well attended. In response to an invitation from Byrd Church and Pastor Bowers, I delivered the sermon there Sunday morning, December 23. One junior girl was saved at the altar. I gave commendations to the church for their participation in the Cooperative Plan, which they hope to increase.

Mrs. Beatty and I spent Christmas with our people in the area of Thayer. Saturday evening, December 29, Mrs. Beatty and I attended the wedding of our granddaughter, Debra Beatty, performed in Tulsa Southeast FWB Church. Pastor Ted

Davis conferred the honor to Brother Beatty to deliver the Sunday morning sermon December 30. One junior young man was saved in this service. Sunday evening their church held communion and feet washing. Every Christian present participated in both services.

Thirty-five churches contributed \$3,216.52 in Cooperative Funds for the month of December, thus we are approximately \$4,000 behind schedule toward our projected goal of \$85,000. Brethren, let's rally to the challenge of 1974 and make this the best year ever.

May the Lord bless thee and cause His face to shine upon thee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1972-73

Church	Jan.	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Aurora	51	47	62	52	30	26	19	26				
Berkeley, First					302	296	289	316	323	342	347	348
Bethel, Festus				83	80	86	96	79				
Copper Mines	77	76	85	91	77	87	86	95	87	80	74	
Cuba	93	91	88	98	80	85		78	72	82	72	71
Desoto	157	178	189	189	159	159	143	158	150	156	161	149
Farmington	125	155		161	139	139	131	129	132	142	134	138
Fellowship, Flat River	328	370	407	390	322	310	277	298	384	432		391
Flat River, First	146	140	178	215	159	149	150	149				
Fourth, St. Louis	134	145	154	143	112	110	125	123				
Grace, Arnold		223	241	255	194	209	189	220	202	240	238	
Jefferson City	38	39	43	40	36	31	34	43	51		56	
Jones Chapel	81	74	86	83	84	86	86	91	101	90		
Joplin, First	74	119	139	116	106	100	102	101	95	94	95	
King's Way, Springfield	60	65	64	66	67	61	68	56	70	79	90	90
Kirkville	111	112	117	114	112	103	101	95				
Leadington	76	51	59	63	65	62	60	59		46	50	47
Lebanon, First	153	156	160	166	144	143	134	119	191		125	
Mine LaMotte	36	43	42	51	46	55	43		37	43	44	
Monett, First	196	209	219	207	198	219	209	200	196	240	208	195
Mountain Grove, First	246	284	263							47	46	49
Myrtle	47	53	63	52	50	45	52	54				
O'Fallon	53	64	72	72	70	53	50	60	65	82	78	
Parkview, Desloge	96	98	90	106	97	83	83	87	96	100	100	98
Richwoods	23	28	34	35	40	34	36	30	31	30	26	33
Salem	39	46	42	39	41	40	37	49	43	45	40	44
South Fremont, Spfd	67	75	77	75	71	74	72	77	83	76		
Southside, St. Louis	133	144	156	154	144	130	132	130	130	126		
Springfield, First	180	228	212	231	200	195	176	174	196	208		
Thayer	116	157	153	181	149	159	173	152	152	156	144	157
Trinity, Bridgeton	172	171	194	200	160	153	159	157	184	174	179	
Twin Oaks	50	53	55	51	71							
Victory, Avondale	173	171	181	174	165	155	138	160	164	233	210	188
Willow Springs	77	88	94	94	95	91	94	95	98	100	96	93

Other churches are invited to send their Sunday School attendance averages for publication.

Woman's Page

Dear Co-Laborers:

Remember . . . Last August we voted to assume the privilege of helping build the Perpetual Loan Fund for our State Home Missions work. Since February is our month for giving to this cause, let us give as liberally as we possibly can.

The church in Houston was our first recipient, and Rev. and Mrs. Tommy Owens, who are serving this church, were very grateful for the help this fund was to them. Come on, women, and let's help put a church or mission in many other areas of Missouri.

The Perpetual Loan Fund is a great plan and mission project, so "Let's Labor Together" and support it with all our hearts and make the \$1,000 goal our minimum instead of the maximum.

Your State Field Worker,
Lucille Beatty

KEEP ME SWEET . . .

No matter what I do today
In all I think, or do, or say,
Whether I work, or sing, or pray, Lord
Keep me sweet at home.

When household duties claim my care,
And I seem needed everywhere,
Then tune my heart to praise and prayer
And keep me sweet at home.

No matter what the day may bring
Or night—I pray in everything
My life may glorify my King
Especially at my home.

*(Thanks to Louise Mosley,
Joplin, MO)*

NOTES AND NEWS . . . St. Louis District met together for a combined meeting with a special program by Mrs. Umbelina Landera. Mrs. Landera left Cuba at the beginning of the communist regime and has a message all should hear. The men were also invited to this meeting and enjoyed both food and the speaker . . . LET'S GIVE . . . GIVE . . .

GIVE . . . this month to our project. Only \$1,000 is all it takes to reach our goal. Send your offerings and reports to BLANCHE WISEHART, MYRTLE, MO 66778 . . . REMEMBER those missionaries that

you promised to write . . . Well, how about it? I'm sure any one of our missionaries would love to hear from somebody at home . . . START NOW . . . and plan your schedule so that you can attend the State Woman's Auxiliary at Flat River and the National Association in Wichita, Kansas.

MEETING OUR CO-LABORERS . . .

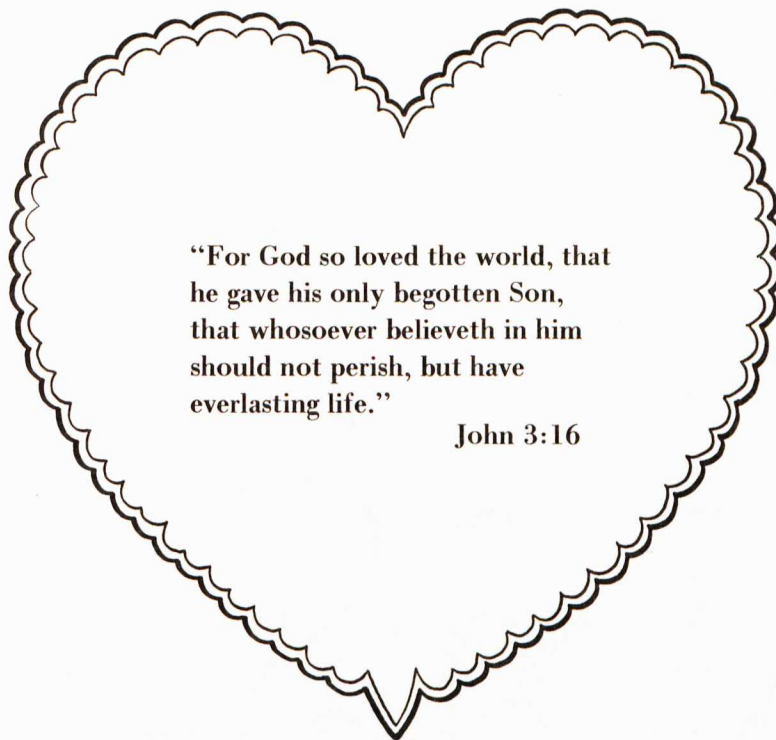
I recently received a letter from an enthusiastic Co-Laborer and thought we might all do well to meet someone who is excited about Auxiliary . . . "Here I am, twenty-two-years old, married almost three years, and belong to God and to the Woman's Auxiliary. It was only this past year that I learned the truth about Woman's Auxiliary and its purpose.

In my opinion, Woman's Auxiliary had always been for older married women, for a part of our Christian life that come later, when we aren't so busy with boyfriends, husbands, or babies. I also felt it was for a time when it wouldn't be so difficult to give one night a month in helping to further the Lord's work. Last, I felt Auxiliary was a place where they bored you with too much business talk and asked for too much money. My first meeting was just as I expected: boring talk that took up too much of MY time. Since that's what I went expecting, that's what I found. I wasn't about to add anything to that meeting because it would just take up more of MY time. I made up MY mind that the first meeting would also be my last one.

Due to a devoted Christian husband who believes in Auxiliary I went back again and have been going ever since, and enjoying every minute of it. What changed my attitude? Really it was many things. One of the main things, was that I had to put something into it, before I could get anything out of it. Now as I see people who take no part in Auxiliary, my heart is burdened because I know what they're missing. I believe Auxiliary is a way of working for the Lord and in return receiving a blessing far more than any work you may do. My prayer every night is that more ladies will become burdened, see the need, and take their place in our Woman's Auxiliary."

(signed) Patty Barr*

**(Patty is an active member of South Side Church, St. Louis)*



"For God so loved the world, that
he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him
should not perish, but have
everlasting life."

John 3:16

*how do you feel
about the new wave of
TV permissiveness*

FED UP YET?

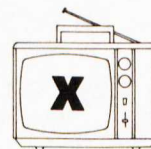


NAE is concerned about the rising degree of permissiveness concerning sex, violence, and profanity on TV. We feel evangelicals across the country share this concern. You are invited to join this nationwide effort to register evangelical opinion with those who make the decisions. Please fill in the blank to the right and mail it today. We will see that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), TV network VIP's and sponsors get the message. This campaign can only succeed with your help. A united voice can make a difference.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
BOX 28, WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60187 312/665-0500

CLIP AND MAIL THIS PORTION TO:
NAE, Box 28, Wheaton IL 60187



Dear FCC:

☐ I am fed up! I find the following programs especially permissive in the area of:

☐ profanity ☐ sex ☐ violence ☐ occult

other: _____

Please list specific programs (and sponsors, if known):

☐ I am convinced good programming is possible and especially commend the following:

Please list specific programs (and sponsors, if known):

Signed _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PRAY FOR MISSOURI STATE MINISTRIES . . .

State Youth Camp

Mr. Pinkney Askren, Caretaker

Missouri Bible Institute

Instructors . . .

Rev. Bud Hill

Rev. Lynn Wood

Mr. Gary Fry

Rev. Clarence Burton

Rev. Don Lombard

Rev. A. B. Brown

Mr. Leonard Tallent

State Home Missionaries

The Mark Vandivorts, Columbia

The Robert Sharrys, Aurora

The George Bryants, Jefferson City

The Bill Adkissons, Cape Girardeau

The Dennis Bowmans, Independence

The Johnnie Lands, Kansas City

State Promotional Secretary

Rev. Harry Beatty

