

Free Will Baptist

December, 1975 ¹⁹⁷⁴
Volume 44
Number 11



Christmas
Greetings



*"for this holiday season from your
promotional secretary."*



SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1973-74

Church	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Aurora			21	23	24	27	25	30	26	22	22	22
Beacon, Raytown	77	81	81	78	89	84	81	79	69	75		
Berkeley, First	347	348	330	309						330	330	330
Central, K.C.	128	118	114	114	121	135	115	123	113	115	120	
Copper Mines	74	76	68	74	73	91	81	82				
Cuba	72	71	72	70	67	92	74	72	88	74	83	
Desoto	161	149	155	145	149	159	170	147	144	138	142	
Evangel, Webb City		44	46	45	41	49	32	33	30	33	45	49
Farmington	134	138	135	115	131	145	144	152	150	179	209	
Fellowship, Flat River		391	330	324	362	405						
Flat River, First										124	135	135
Fourth, St. Louis	132	141	164	146	174	164	144	152	137	179	160	167
Grace, Arnold	238	232	226	200	230	272		226				
Jones Chapel	85	91	71	91	90							
King's Way, Springfield	90	90	80	85	99	92	97	95				
Leadington	50	47	49	35	47	56						
Lebanon, First	125		128	144	127	128						
Mine LaMotte	44	46	44	40	50	75	62	55	67	60	62	69
Monett, First	208	195	187	190	188	195	184					
Mountain Grove, First	265	276	253	277	275							
Myrtle	46	49	44	44		48	48	50	46			
O'Fallon	78	62	70	65	85	81	75	73	64	63	71	115
Parkview, Desloge	100	98	78	75	81	85	78			75	81	86
Richwoods	26	33	22	27	27	38	28					
Salem	40	44	34	35			40	40	44	37	35	
South Fremont, Spfd		80	80				84	82	79	82	89	92
Southside, St. Louis	140	127	126	127	141	143	134	132	129	134	133	152
Springfield, First	202	220	185	200	175	208	186	182	169	190		
Thayer	144	157	156	151	154	168	161	145	159		148	142
Trinity, Bridgeton	179	192	189	182	202	225		184	162	171		192
Twin Oaks	55	58	52	56	64	73	61	62	61	63	60	
Victory, Avondale	210	188	189	188	179	218	171	177	143	161	184	181
Willow Springs	96	93	83	90	95	104	107	101	103	104	99	

Other churches are invited to send their Sunday school attendance averages for publication in the March Issue.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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Andy W. Lay, editor.

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By N. R. Smith

Why is there a Christmas?

Galatians 4:4, 5: "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."

We ask, "Why did Jesus come?" Let us look at this question. I am sure that we will find several things that will bless our hearts.

There was a need for Jesus to come because man had fallen by sin from the original state in which God created man. Sin is transgression of God's law. In simple terms it is doing what God has commanded us not to do or not doing what God has commanded us to do.

God sent His Son because of the sin of Adam. Adam chose to transgress the commandment of God. Because he ate of the forbidden fruit, he did wrong and was no longer perfect. We are not guilty of Adam's sin, but each of us receives from birth the nature to sin. We have a sinful nature; therefore, we are not perfect in the sight of God.

Because we are not perfect, man is guilty of his own sin. There is not a person on this earth that has not sinned against God. We believe that children are safe until they reach the age of accountability, but they still have the sinful nature. We can say that all men everywhere need to be saved because the Bible declares this truth.

Yes, God sent His Son so that all men might have the experience of the New Birth. Not just Adam, but all men have turned from God. One of the things that I have found that keeps people away from God is that they are involved in their own selfish way of life. No one wants to go to Hell, but the devil has made them think that they can live for him in this life and then, in the last moment, get right with God. Man needs to be saved because he has turned from God's way to his own way.

The Lord in His Word has given to us the way that He wants us to live. God wants man back into the right relationship with Him. Yet, people try to justify their turning from God by all kinds of excuses. This shows man's need of salvation because he has turned from God.

God is the one who has provided Christmas. Man can do nothing to bring about his own salvation. It is God alone that has given to us the greatest gift, His only begotten Son.

God has provided us redemption through His mercy. We all deserve to spend eternity under the condemnation of sin, but God has said that we can have forgiveness through His Son. For those that will accept pardon, He will not give us justice. At

this Christmas time, we can thank God for His mercy.

It is also the love of God that has provided us with His Son. We must realize that it was love that brought the plan of redemption into reality. It was love that prompted God to look for a man of faith that could be the father of the nation to bring the Redeemer into the world. It was love that gave the prophets the details of His coming so we might realize that at the coming of Jesus that our salvation was going to be a reality.

When we think of each event in the birth of Christ, we see the love of God. Christmas should be a time that God's love fills our hearts. We should let the love of God touch our hearts this Christmas as we remember what He did for us.

The gift is given to all humanity. It is a thrilling thought to realize that God included all humanity. It does not matter who we are, salvation is for us personally.

Redemption was provided for all those who died in faith of the one who would come. Throughout the Old Testament, we see the promise of the Redeemer that would come. The coming of Jesus was not just for those who were alive then, but for all that died in faith of the one who would come.

Forgiveness through Christ was also for all those that have lived from then until now. It is a blessed thought to know that the gospel has not changed. Our forefathers were saved as we are saved today. They experienced the New Birth as we do today. The birth of Christ meant the same to them as it does for us today.

Christmas should be a time to remind us that we are partakers of Christ. We need to remember that this is why Jesus came. It thrills my heart to hear people proclaim that they know Him as their personal Savior. This time of the year is for us who believe and it should be a time of drawing closer to God.

I am afraid that many times we get caught up into the commercial atmosphere and forget what this season really means. Profit is the way of the world, but believers should take advantage of this time to proclaim that we know the Christ of Christmas and that He has saved us from our sins.

Christmas is also for the unbelievers. We should remind the world that the purpose of Christ's coming is that they might be saved. We need to adhere to the Bible terms about salvation so those who are lost will know the true meaning of Christmas. This is the time of the year to proclaim the "Good News" and the need of their being saved

now. Let us share the blessing of knowing Christ with the unsaved this Christmas.

Not only did Christ come to redeem those in the past and we which are alive today, but He came to save those that will live until His second coming. We need to win this generation to Christ so they will win the next generation.

The reality of the first coming should remind us of the reality of the second coming of Christ. Jesus has commissioned us to make disciples of all nations. He has promised that He will return for His church. At this Christmas season, we also must remember that He has promised that He will return.

Because Jesus came, God is the giver of eternal life. Eternal life means that we are free from the condemnation of eternal death. The Bible gives us glimpses of eternity with God. We cannot earn, merit, or buy eternity with God. It is freely given to all those who believe on His Son. God is the giver.

Because Jesus came, Christ became the Savior of the world. Satan has tried to duplicate it, but there is only one who can save from sin. There is only one who was raised from the dead. There is only one Son of God.

I am sure that only eternity will let us understand the fulness of what it means for Christ to be our Savior. It means that He suffered the penalty for our sin. It means that He was the requirement of God so that we might be adopted back into the family of God. It means that when we accept Him as our Savior that He covers us with His righteousness. He

came to be our Savior.

When we are saved, we are the receiver of life. This means that we are transformed by His blood. Where we were dead to sin, we have been made alive. Mercy is extended to us. We are justified in the eyes of God. The guilt of our sin is gone. Yes, because He came, we live.

Words cannot adequately describe the gift we receive when we come to know Christ as our Savior. At this season of the year, let us rejoice in our hearts. We should let the whole world know what we have experienced in our hearts so they can experience it in theirs.

Not only are we the receiver of life, but we are adopted into the family of God. Being a child of God means that we are to take on the appearance of God. We should live the transformed life. Our lives should be an example to others that God can change lives. It should be true in our lives that the ways of the world are passed away and we are living our lives for the Lord. We want to live for Him because we have experienced salvation in our hearts.

There is a Christmas because God gave us salvation through His Son. Let us make this season of the year a time where we let God move on our hearts in a special way. Do not let the world win the victory this year. Let God touch your heart.

Reverend N. R. Smith is pastor of the First FWB Church of Joplin, MO.

On The National Front

THREE MISSOURI STUDENTS MAKE DEAN'S LIST

Three Free Will Baptist Bible College students from Missouri made the Dean's List, "B" Honor Roll, at mid-semester. They are: Sandra Summers, Desloge; Kenneth Fox, Avondale; and Marilyn Peebles, Mt. Grove.

Congratulations to all from the *GEM* family.

MISSOURI'S OUTSIDE GIVING

The National Home Mission Board reports that Missouri gave \$1,386.40 in October. We are still short \$5,129.60 of our \$22,000 quota for 1974.

\$2,722.60 was sent to Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, in October. Top giving churches were Farmington First Church which gave \$312.58 and Fellowship Church in Flat River which gave \$270.50.

COUNTRY CHURCH NEEDS PASTOR

In the beautiful mountain country of the Pacific

Northwest, near the Canadian border, there is a small country church in desperate need of a pastor.

Liberty Church of Rockport, Washington, has been under the leadership of Rev. Fred Dellinger for several years, but Brother Dellinger has assumed a pastorate in Portland.

Liberty FWB Church is small with an average attendance usually in the twenties. Minimal reimbursement is provided to its pastor, only about \$700 or \$800 per year. But there are job opportunities: logging or sawmill work, substitute and/or teaching jobs with the school. Or it would be an ideal spot for a retired minister to live and continue his calling.

The church is located northeast of Seattle in the most picturesque part of the state of Washington. Besides fishing for men, there is an opportunity to fish in clear, cold mountain streams. It is also excellent country for big game hunting.

Somewhere God has a man for these people of Rockport who need a leader. If you feel the Holy Spirit speaking to you about this need, please call or write Ray Hudson, P. O. Box 294, Darrington, Washington. Phone 207-436-1428.

FROM THE FILKINS IN IVORY COAST

Excerpts from a recent news letter follow:

"How we thank you for the many prayers you have petitioned in our behalf. May you rejoice with us over the victory God is giving. Continue to bear us up, for as surely as God is working, so is our adversary. As many hearts are drawn closer to the

Lord here on the campus, we see some getting miserable and it's because of unconfessed sin. Pray that these students will have victory too.

"The boys are busy as usual. Dan is senior class president. He is on the varsity soccer team and yearbook staff. Hardly seems possible that he will be 18 in January.

"Dave is a junior and carrying a heavy school load. He is on the outreach committee, two outreach groups, and varsity basketball team, and he plays his guitar in musical groups. He was 16 in September.

"Dale is still enjoying a measure of freedom. He has a kindergarten class an hour each morning. His talents seem to be in creative work and a hammer and nails are his delight.

"Our account has dipped into the red with so many school expenses. We are praising God for the opportunity to work here and will just trust Him to meet this need. Will you help us pray for new monthly supporters?

"May the Lord bless each of you in your mission field at home. How thankful we are for all you have shared with us. We love to hear from you when you have time to write."

To God be the glory,
The Howard Filkins Family
B.P. 1171 Bouake
Ivory Coast, West Africa

EDITOR'S NOTE: This fine lay family from Missouri has gone to the mission field at God's direction. It is our responsibility to send them and meet their needs while they are there. Let's rally to their support with our offerings.

FROM THE FULCHER'S IN PANAMA

Excerpts from a recent newsletter are as follows:

"The Lord continues to bless in the work here. On September 15 we had a baptismal service in the Chagres River. Bill baptized 16. Some of these had been Christians for some time but had never followed the Lord in baptism. But the majority were new converts. Most of them were young people between the ages of 13 and 23. Please remember these in your prayers.

"We are still trying for 200 in Sunday school. Our high so far has been 193 which we had for two Sundays.

"Bill has 10 who are studying in the Bible Institute on Monday evenings at the church. He also has been teaching on Wednesday nights a study of the church ordinances and church structure.

"We appreciate very much the good offering that was sent into our account last month from the Missouri State Association. Please pass along our thanks to all the churches. We appreciate all that the good people of Missouri have done for our work here in Panama."

In Christ,
The Bill Fulcher Family
Apartado 6931
Panama 5, Panama

FROM THE HORTONS IN DES MOINES

Excerpts from a recent news letter follow:

"The watchful care of God has been great for the Hortons this year. On May 3 we were commissioned. God supplied a place to worship. After this, God sent some wonderful people to help build this church. I wish each of you could be able to be here in a service to see what you have shared in. You have been faithful to give to our account. Thank you!

"We are looking for property to house this infant church. I ask you to pray for this need."

With thankfulness,
The Leland Horton Family
2314 E. 39th St. Court
Des Moines, Iowa 50317

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

OCTOBER, 1974

Byrd	\$15.00
Beacon	275.74
Number One	27.75
Mine La Motte	27.71
Hannon	154.65
Kansas City First Mission	135.00
Fredericktown (3rd. Qtr.)	407.05
Mt. Grove, First	442.04
Grace (Sept.)	577.12
Pleasant Hill	10.00
Alton	10.00
Thayer	115.50
Aurora	41.63
Carterville	27.12
Union	60.00
Rock Chapel (Oct.)	21.87
Pleasant Ridge	25.00
Cuba (Sept.)	48.73
O'Fallon (Sept.)	66.30
Mill Creek (July-Sept.)	117.41
Mill Creek Sunday school (3 months)	17.22
Independence (Sept.)	77.00
Freeman Chapel (Sept.)	122.30
Farmington, First	339.55
De Soto, First	285.00
Faith	157.37
Verdella (Aug.-Sept.)	123.94
Pleasant Home	81.08
Berkeley (Oct.)	300.00
Copper Mines	85.00
Leadington (Sept.)	143.24
Royal Oaks	30.00
Mt. Valley (July-Sept.)	147.30
New Rock Springs	45.00
Twin Oaks	200.00
Happy Home	23.62
Granby	44.62
New Home, Laclede Co.	34.35
Bethel, Festus	40.00
Fourth	362.16
Monett, First	271.55
Aulsbury Chapel (3 months)	234.00
Central (Oct.)	120.00
Purdy, First	58.28
Gateway (Oct.)	12.00
Aurora	47.50
Pleasant Grove	22.39
Houston, First (Oct.)	100.00
Grant Avenue (Oct.)	236.65
South Side (Oct.)	208.00
Fellowship (Oct.)	50.00
Bethel, Festus (Oct.)	40.00
Mine La Motte (Oct.)	26.95
Divine Trinity, Potosi	26.00
Beacon (Oct.)	210.09
A Cooperative Friend	82.22
Fifty contributions	\$7,000.00

CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS

FALL ENLARGEMENT CAMPAIGN BRINGS HARVEST OF SOULS

The fall enlargement campaign held at the First Free Will Baptist Church of O'Fallon, Missouri, during October proved successful, according to Pastor Donald Lombard and Sunday school superintendent Joe Hill. The result of this campaign entitled "Enlarge Your Vision" was an increase of 50% over their spring campaign results, or an average of 115 attending Sunday school each Sunday of October. A new record of 130 was set in Sunday school attendance on the third Sunday of the campaign.

Not only were the Lord's blessings felt during the hours of Sunday school for October, but His blessings were found with the worship hours as well. A total of fourteen individuals united with the church in membership during October and there were eleven decisions for Christ. Seven of these decisions were first time decisions for the Lord. The spirit of revival is reported to continue into November with four uniting with the church in membership and two decisions for Christ on the first Sunday of November.

"To God be the glory. Great things He hath done!"

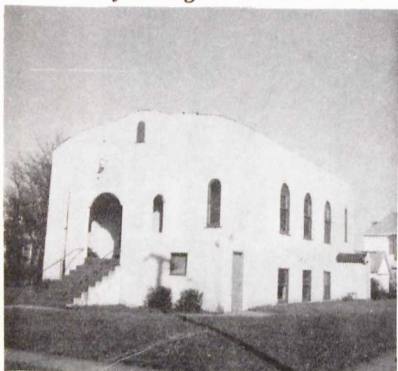
HISTORY OF GEM IN PREPARATION

Mr. Leamon L. Killian, a layman at Fourth FWB Church in St. Louis, is writing a history of the FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM. He would appreciate readers supplying him with some of the early copies of the GEM (before 1953) or information about the GEM in its early days. He would especially like to have a copy of the resolution adopted at the State Association, probably in 1928, which brought the GEM into existence. If any GEM reader has this information or knows where it may be obtained, please notify Mr. Killian at 8528 Palmetto Drive, Affton, MO 63123.

EVANGEL CHURCH PURCHASES BUILDING

The Evangel FWB Church of Webb City an-

*Church building purchased
by Evangel FWB Church.*



*Brother Gene Easterwood
being presented with
plague.*



*Presentation being made
to Rev. Clyde Wilkerson*



nounced the purchase of a church building located at Third and Liberty. The 50-year-old building has an auditorium seating capacity of about 150 and a full basement with six Sunday school rooms, kitchen, and fellowship hall.

The Evangel congregation will be one year old on December 8 and plans special services for the day.

On November 10, Evangel's pastor, Andy Lay, kept his promise to eat his dinner on the roof the first Sunday the attendance of a regular church service exceeded 100. Church attendance for that Sunday was 104. On November 17, 107 attended the worship service and 81 were in Sunday school.

SOUTH FREMONT CHURCH PRESENTS HONORS ON LAYMEN'S DAY

Laymen's Day was observed by the South Fremont FWB Church in Springfield on October 13. A special presentation was made to Rev. Clyde Wilkerson, a semi-retired minister, missionary, and evangelist.

In the morning service a plaque was presented to Brother Gene Easterwood, the chairman of the board of directors, by Brother Edward Willoughby. This plaque was presented to the South Fremont Church at the state meeting of Free Will Baptists at Flat River, Missouri, in August by the State Home Missions Board, representing the fact that the church was the highest per capita contributor to State Home Missions last year.

Pastor Wayne Wagoner states, "God has put in the heart of our people a vision, a vision for the cause of Christ in Missouri and around the world. We love Missouri, and most of all we love the people of Missouri for whom Christ died."

During the afternoon service a cake was presented to the Reverend Clyde Wilkerson, who upholstered the seats of the church bus after vandals had slashed them. In appreciation for Brother Wilkerson's work the church ordered the cake made in his honor. It was presented by Mrs. Peggy Appleby.

"As well as having a great time in the Lord that afternoon," writes Pastor Wagoner, "we had very beautiful singing by our youth choir, directed by Mrs. Phyllis Willoughby."

SECOND SEMESTER AT MBI TO BEGIN SOON

The Missouri Bible Institutes located at Arnold, Kansas City, Mountain Grove, and Joplin will begin

second semester classes on January 14 or 16, depending upon the local schedule. Classes are being taught in Bible Survey, Bible Doctrine, Teaching Methods, Evangelism, and Choral Directing. Local schedules and curriculum may be obtained from the Institute Directors; Rev. Clarence Burton for Arnold; Rev. William Evans for Kansas City; Rev. Bud Hill for Mountain Grove; Rev. Dale Smith for Joplin.

All Missouri Bible Institutes are extensions of Hillsdale FWB College in Moore, Oklahoma, and credits are transferable and accredited by the Oklahoma State Board of Regents. The cost is \$20.00 per semester hour for credit or \$10.00 per semester hour to audit the classes.

Following are two testimonials for MBI:

Bible Institute? That's for scholars, bookworms and the like! No, you are wrong. It's for growing Christians. It takes what is common to all of us—a love for Christ—and gives us practical tools to use in service for the Lord. The Bible gives us practical tools to use in service for the Lord. The Bible gives us a means of judging things. The Bible tells us that we can tell how good something is by its fruit. If that is the way you look at things, South Side FWB Church of St. Louis has some convincing evidence of why you should attend Missouri Bible Institute.

This evidence is a young man who held a position of responsibility in the church as song leader. His love of music and good voice made him quite qualified; but as we all should be, he was dissatisfied. Then along came the Missouri Bible Institute. And as the dynamic duo of our pastor and song leader came back after each class, there would be jokes about their abilities. However, something was growing clearer; they were not only gaining knowledge, but confidence. Then one Sunday we were turning to hymn numbers instead of page numbers. We were also being led by hand motions and not just by lip motions. Get the idea? I'm glad someone did. Things will never be the same again. Ask Tom Barr, South Side's song director.

Those lines were written by Jim Spindel. Following is the recommendation from Rev. Ronnie Graham.

I personally would like to recommend that, if you have an opportunity, you attend Missouri Bible Institute. There are two important points about the Bible Institute. First, it helps to prepare us for service in the local church. How many of us today desire to be better equipped for service in the local church? Second, we need to know the Word of God and be able to present it to an indifferent world. I

have found in witnessing to the unsaved they expect me to know what God's Word says.

Missouri Bible Institute has been a real blessing to my heart. I do pray God will place the burden upon your heart to attend.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MISSOURI FWB

"My heart is inditing a good matter . . ." (Psalms 45:1).

I come to you with all confidence because of past experience. I know you will share with me the burden of my heart.

Recently I read the headlines telling of two pairs of cuff links and two footballs autographed by President Ford being auctioned off for \$25,000.

A sum in excess of six million dollars was raised to finance Evil Kneivel's attempt to jump Snake River Canyon.

Viewers paid thirty-two million dollars to see the Mohammed Ali—George Foreman fight.

After reading these things my heart was encouraged to write this letter. Surely if people of the world can raise money to finance worldly programs, we Free Will Baptists of Missouri should be able to raise an additional \$10,000 for the Perpetual Loan Fund. The Perpetual Loan Fund is a fund set up by the State Home Mission Board to loan new churches money for first unit buildings.

Sometimes I fear when we dedicate our lives to the Lord we say:

Jesus, I love you
I love you so well
If I had a peanut,
I'd give you the shell

One missionary wrote, "We have found it impossible to obtain the needed financing due to the high interest rates and the unavailability of money to be loaned to churches that are small in membership and in years of existence."

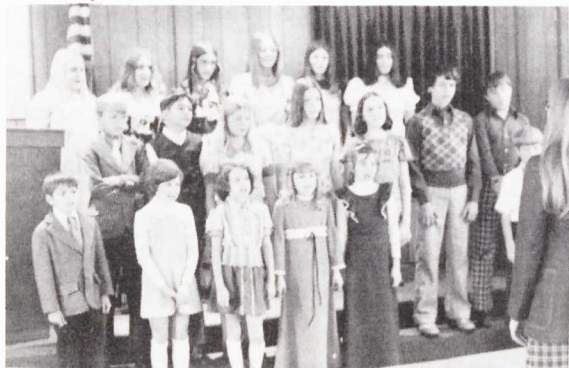
Another missionary wrote, "We really need a building badly. We have no Sunday school classrooms in the Lion's Club Building and only have the building on Sundays."

Another missionary wrote and there was no money at that time.

How I wish I were rich enough to write a check for each missionary, but God did not want it that way. He wanted us to work together.

Let me share with you Brother Tom Owens' feeling about the Loan Fund. "I am convinced that by a pastor's being able to obtain this loan for a

*South Fremont FWB
Church youth choir.*



Some students of MBI.



building, people are more willing to come. People feel the church is more stable." Brother and Sister Owens feel this was a God-sent idea and are very thankful for having been recipients of it.

As I met with the Mission Board and missionaries and shared the burden of my heart, I was blessed when they said, "Count my church for \$100.00 more." We only need approximately 90 more churches or individuals to give \$100 and we will be able to see another church built and souls added to the Kingdom.

A goal setter goes till he gets what he goes for.

He fixes a goal and he knows when he sets it

The way to the goal is to go till he gets it.

Let's set our goal for \$10,000 to be sent in by January 1, 1975. We will keep you informed of the progress through our FWB *GEM*. Please send your gift to Mrs. Frances Bowman, Special Project Treasurer, 625 N. Odell, Marshall, MO 65340.

Yours for the cause of Christ,
Frances Bowman

YOUR CHURCH NEWS COULD BE HERE

The "Churches, People, and Events" section of the *GEM* is the most popular and most widely read, according to comments made to the editor. If anything newsworthy is happening at your church, please write it down and mail it to the *GEM* office. We will edit it as our space demands and publish it for FWB around the world to read.

Since the *GEM* budget does not allow for travel and reporting expenses, we are totally dependent upon you to send the news from your area.

When it happens, tell the *GEM*. The *GEM* will tell the world.

Missouri State Home Mission Giving: October 5 through November 5, 1974

Willow Springs	11.09
Cuba	15.65
Rock Chapel	20.00
Alton	10.00
Cape Girardeau	24.00
Victory	213.00
Grace	25.00
New Rock Springs	31.00
Byrd	25.00
Aurora	25.00
Monett, First	75.00
Desoto, First	25.00
Myrtle	23.89
Fellowship	20.00
Twin Oak	25.00
New Home	30.00
South Side	6.00
Houston	75.00
South Fremont	140.50
Central	20.00
Independence	15.00
Low Ground	5.00
Salem	10.00
St. Francis Co. S.S. Conv.	25.00
Hazel Creek	10.00
Cooperative Receipts	1,400.00
	2,305.13

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

Promotional Secretary's Corner

by Rev. Harry Beatty



Pastor Rehkop of the Arnold Church conducted a one-week revival meeting in Houston FWB Church. In his absence I filled Grace pulpit Sunday morning, October 6. We had good attendance and services.

Sunday afternoon of that same day Pastor A. B. Brown and Bethel Church in Festus held a dedication service for their new brick church. Three former pastors sharing the dedication service were Jack Stalling, Ralph Hampton, and Loy Smith. There were several local ministers and lay people. The Durbin Family rendered an hour of special singing. Bethel's spacious new facilities should accommodate their congregation for many years to come.

Mr. Keith Kenemer, director of Sunday School Revivals, and Hillsdale College president, Bill Jones, conducted a two-day seminar at our Missouri State Camp October 7-9. I attended along with 24 other ministers. These seminars are very helpful, inspirational, and informative. The attendance was light, however.

Fredericktown First Church hosted the 303rd session of the Madison County Quarterly Meeting Friday evening, October 11. Brother Leon Miller preached for the youth service. Saturday morning Sikeston's pastor, Rev. Denzil Durbin, preached the sermon. I gave the Missouri promotional program and some people purchased Bibles from our Lebanon Bible Stand.

On Sunday morning, October 13, I delivered the sermon in Twin Oaks Church. Pastor Truman Huffman reports some were saved in their recent revival. Sunday night, Pastor Guy Leonard invited me to share the gospel message in Parkview Church and to promote Missouri State program as well. All three churches I attended this weekend participate faithfully in the cooperative program.

Five revival meetings were going on simultaneously in Southeast Association the week of October 13: Fellowship of Flat River, Flat River First, Leadington First, and Faith and South Side in St. Louis. The pastors report that souls were saved and the churches were greatly challenged.

Each of the Harmony Quarterly Meeting churches were represented with delegates Friday, October 25, when convened with Lead Hill Church near Mansfield. Introductory sermon was delivered Friday evening by Pastor Garry Dedmon. Special vocal music was rendered by Wolf Creek Church Quartet. Richard Martin and Robert Chapman filled the pulpit on Saturday. Brother Beatty gave the Missouri promotional program and placed some new

Bibles from our Lebanon Bible Stand.

I visited one service of the Old Liberty revival Saturday night. Rev. Jack Day preached the evangelistic messages for this revival. Visiting singing groups rendered the special numbers.

Pastor R. Chapman and the Lone Star Church invited me to bring the message there on Sunday morning, October 27. We enjoyed a good service. Their revival is scheduled to start on November 11. Sunday night I visited Waynesville Church and delivered the evening sermon. Pastor Southwell reports ten youth were saved in their recent revival.

Thanks to more than 50 churches for \$7,000.00 Cooperative funds sent in October. Four months receipts total \$29,221.54. Thus, we are approximately \$800 behind schedule at this point. I challenge you, brethren; let's join ranks and go forward and upward.

Harry Beatty
2244 Tenbrook
Arnold, MO 63010

DESIGNATED MONIES THROUGH STATE OFFICE, OCTOBER, 1974

Mt. Grove First Church	
Three accounts	\$70.00
Kansas City First Church	
One mission account	15.00
Granby FWB Church	
One mission account	30.00
Hazel Creek Church	
Two accounts	20.00
Total received and disbursed	\$135.00

OCTOBER DISBURSEMENTS

October Disbursements:	
20.00% Mo. Missions	\$1,400.00
15.00% Mo. Promotional Dept.	1,050.00
05.50% Mo. Youth Camp	385.00
04.00% Mo. General Fund	280.00
04.00% Mo. State College	
Commission	280.00
02.50% Gem	175.00
01.00% Mo. C.T.S. & S.S.	70.00
52% seven Mo. Depts.	3,640.00
07.00% 7% Hillsdale College	490.00
41% eight Nat'l. Depts.	<u>2,870.00</u>
Total	\$7,000.00
13.00% Foreign Missions	910.00
09.00% F.W.B. Bible College	630.00
07.00% National Executive	490.00
06.50% Nat'l. Home Missions	455.00
03.00% Nat'l. C.T.S. Dept.	210.00
02.00% Board of Retirement	
and Insurance	140.00
00.25% Layman's Board	17.50
00.25% Theological	
Liberalism Comm.	17.50
100% Total disbursed	\$7,000.00

Promotional Secretary and Treasurer
Harry Beatty

Merry
Christmas

never say can't



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Woman's Page



DON'T FORGET . . . This is the year to "Send the Lynn Mileys Across the Miles." Our state auxiliary project is to raise \$1,000 for their account. Your auxiliary might want to set aside a certain number of miles on a map to send them or give a special offering for the project. Let's go over our goal this year . . . Our goal for the perpetual loan fund this year will also be, \$1,000 (\$500, to general fund) . . . Let's hear what you are doing for the Lord this year in your auxiliary. Your news and black and white photos can be sent to: Kathy Lay, 13 Tanglewood Dr., Carl Junction, MO 64834.

LORD, WHY DIDN'T I?

I saw a man sometime ago . . . Who looked so lonely and lost . . . The sadness of years shown on his face . . . And I thought, my how bad he looks . . . As I went on my way, Lord, why didn't I stop and say, Hello, And in some way try to brighten his day and ask him if he knew you . . . And Lord, I talked to a lady a few days back . . . A good friend of mine . . . Her life is filled with one problem and then another . . . Heartache upon heartache is her daily diet . . . Lord, why didn't I just one more time witness to her of her need for you in her life? The young man who lives down the road was found stabbed last week, lying beside the road . . . His life nearly snuffed out because of the drug he carried in his pocket. Oh, Lord, I have known him for years, but why didn't I speak to him about his soul when I had the chance? . . . And yesterday, Lord, I saw an elderly lady walking up the street . . . She held a cane and was bent with age . . . She waited at the corner for the light to change . . . Her arms were filled with packages . . . As the light turned green, Lord, the crowd behind nearly trampled her . . . As she dropped her packages and bent to retrieve them, Lord, not one person in that crowd gave her a helping hand . . . Why didn't I hurry and help

her? . . . Oh, Lord, as I ponder these things . . . As life is passing by so quickly . . . I realize Lord, how weak I am . . . How many, Lord, of these friends and neighbors have already slipped out into eternity without knowing the Love, Peace, and Joy that can be theirs through you . . . And how many, Lord, have we let fall by the way, or have gone hungry because we weren't quick enough to act or speak up . . . Help me Lord, to be able to say . . . Oh, Lord, I have, and thank you this year instead of "Why didn't I Lord? . . ."

Written by Kay Gann, President of the Ladies Auxiliary at Waynesville First Church (That gives us something to think about as we start a new year for the Lord.)

CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

by Wanda Cluct of the Hurryville Church

Luke 2:11, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Isaiah 9:6, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Jesus was born the Son of God. He possessed all power; yet there He lay, a tiny baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes. Though He owned this world, He had to make His first bed in a manger where the cattle were fed. He was a descendent of an earthly king, but He held a heavenly kingship as well. He was born in a stable. There was no one to give Him or His mother a room in their house or inn. He came into a world which gave Him neither recognition nor welcome; yet amid all the humility and poverty in which Jesus came, God sent a heavenly welcome: The angels of heaven sang at His birth. God exalted His Son by sending the heavenly choir to announce

His birth to the lowly shepherds. He sent a special star to guide the Wise Men to the Christ Child. We have to say, "Surely this is the Son of God!"

If we were artists and painted a picture of a winter scene, it might have dark trees covered heavily with snow. A dreary, dark house would be standing alone, desolate in the storm. All this would be a picture of sadness. But we would then add one final touch. With a quick stroke of yellow paint we would put a light in one window of the house. The effect would be like magic. The entire scene would be transformed to a picture of gladness. It would be a vision of comfort and cheer to see that light shining in the window.

Christ came to the world as a tiny baby. His coming was light to cheer a dark world. He is the Light of the world. John 8:12 and 9:15 refer to Jesus as the Light of the world. The Light that shone that night in Bethlehem is still shining today. He is still the hope of a dark sad world.

We will probably see this dramatized in Christmas programs as we do year after year. We receive a certain amount of enjoyment from this. But unless we heed the message and receive the Savior as our own, we are just window shopping. We are on the outside looking in, because there is a vast difference in looking at something and actually having it. This is also true in the real meaning of Christmas. We can look at it and say it is nice. Or we can actually possess it ourselves. We can step inside and receive God's free gift of salvation "without money and without price."

Christmas means that God offers you forgiveness. Salvation from sin and eternal life through the Savior whose birth we honor can actually be yours.

In past Christmas seasons I have seen the word "XMAS" in store windows, Christmas cards, newspapers, etc. In my opinion this is very contrary to the Bible. It leaves Christ out. Don't wish me "Merry Xmas." Put Christ back in Christmas.

Often at Christmas time gifts are merely swapped. Yet in doing so we think we are celebrating the anniversary of God's great gift to the world, the Lord Jesus. But our gift giving is so wrapped up in selfishness and so twisted by greed until we may be guilty of sacrilege in the entire undertaking.

But in God's giving of His Son there was no selfishness or greed or desire for personal gain. Instead He was motivated by love and the need of man for forgiveness, cleansing, and life. "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).

Man was lost, dead in sins and trespasses, and God gave that he might not perish eternally. Jesus in humility and unselfishness gave His all in obedience to the Father's will for the good of man and the glory of the Father.

As we study the humility, obedience, and sacrificial gift of Jesus, may the Father of all good and perfect gifts forgive us our selfishness and create within our hearts the ability to give of ourselves and our means to the good of others and to His eternal glory.

Let us remember to keep the spirit of Christ in Christmas this year.



Concern for Justice

EXODUS 18:13-27

What a difference between the attitude of Moses and that of the major segment of our population today in regard to law and justice. The attitude of Moses was one of compassion and concern that justice might be had by every individual. The rising tide of lawlessness across our nation is undeniable evidence that the general opinion of law and justice today is for everyone to do that which is right in his own eyes.

The Christian has a grave responsibility, not only to obey the laws, but to see that his fellowman receives justice. Yet many seem to feel "It's none of my business" unless it concerns themselves. This is a far different idea from that of Christ when He said, "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

We must become concerned about justice for three simple reasons:

1) We are admonished to by the Word of God. Unless a law is in conflict with a principle of the Word of God, the Christian is to obey it.

2) For the sake of an exemplary life. The father who constantly ignores the traffic laws, cheats on income tax reports, etc., is going to be hard put to explain to his son why *he* should be a law-abiding citizen.

3) One of the basic freedoms of our nation has been the right of free men to govern themselves. But when men no longer will regard the laws they have made, then they also lose the right of self-government.

(Written 4 days before President Kennedy was assassinated, by Russel Spurgeon for a daily devotional magazine.)

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Do you support Missouri State Youth Camp?
Do you support Missouri State Home Missions?
Do you support FWBBC Library Wing Project?
Do you support Hillsdale College Debt Elimination Project?

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