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Free Will Baptist

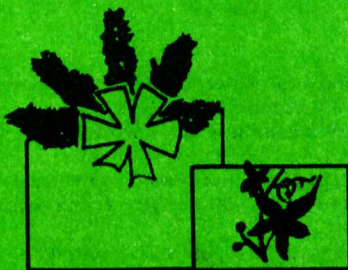
GEM

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"



And so it was, that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men (Luke 2:6-14). This year, do not forget that this is what Christmas is all about.

Have a joyous holiday season. Best of wishes from all the GEM family.



Sunday School Attendance Averages 1977-78

Church	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.
Bethel						125	120	102	115	104	131	134	118
Calvary, Conway		124	124	121	111	110	120						
Copper Mines		75	84	77	86	92	74	85	91	78	89	85	
Cuba								71					
Farmington		383	395	389	414	458	509		460	429	438	438	414
Fellowship												221	248
Flat River, First							234	199	203	263	225	233	
Fourth				134	145	193	181	185	147	126	177	175	
Grace				194	197	207	214	190	179	158	168		
Grant Avenue		130	137	127	129	145	138						
Kansas City, First		18	13	14	16	12	17	16					
Kirksville, First													
Myrtle		49	42	45	47	52		50	45	45	51		
Richwoods		30	36	25	28	33	32	33	36	27	30	33	
South Side				159	157	155	131	106	116				
Terrill Road (Moberly)									39	39	32	40	
Trinity		171	197	175	180	183	171	172	168	148	140		
Verdella				60	63	73	80						173
Willow Springs		115	104	111	93	110	110	95	100	108	107	109	119

Please send in your Sunday school averages each month. It will enable others to see how the Lord is blessing your labor.

All items for publication must be in the hands of the editor *no later than the 15th of the month* preceding the issue month.

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Clarence Burton, editor

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Why Have Christmas?



by Wayne Wagner

There is no doubt about it; we are living in remarkable changing times. The awe of this age is that those things we used to consider being things we could depend on (honesty, man's word, integrity, etc.) are no longer dependable in many cases.

Loyalty is almost a lost quality. Faithfulness is a forgotten principle to live by. However, one thing is certain; Christ and His coming to this earth to redeem fallen man and restore him to a state of "not guilty" is not lost to the sight of God and He has not forgotten the saint or the sinner.

Why have a message on "Why Christmas," when we know that every year between November 1 to December 25th, the commercialism of the local stores will not let us forget it? The plays and programs of the local church will not let us forget it. The family sharing of gifts and get-to-gathers will not let us forget it. Why Christmas? There are three reasons that stand out in my mind why. The first reason is:

- I. God planned the coming of Christ to this earth and not man.
 - A. The fall of man necessitated a visit from God to this earth.

Everything, before it became bad, was good. You see, sin is just goodness turned around. Loyalty turned around is a lack of it. Faithfulness turned around is unfaithfulness. Love turned around is hate, etc. Everything Satan is now, he was just the opposite before his fall.
 - B. God planned before the foundation of the world to send His Son to this earth.

The only way God could help fallen man to straighten out his ways was to send him some help. He did just that by the coming of Jesus Christ to this earth (John 1:9 and Luke 3:5, 6).
 - C. Man and everything he touches, without the

direction and help of God, turns good things into wrecks.

It seems that eventually we could see by our own wandering around in the wilderness of despair and dismay that we need someone to show us the way out of our dilemma. However God says in His Word that this is impossible without His help (1 Corinthians 1:18; 2:14). This is the very reason that God planned to send His Son, to help us see the light. The second reason is:

- II. God planned to send His Son in a miraculous way.
 - A. The first indication of this is by seeing that God set aside a group of prophetic utterances telling us that God was going to send someone to this earth and help man get turned around right. Of course these prophecies come from the Book, the Word of God. Such prophecies are found in Genesis 3:15; Genesis 49:10; Isaiah 9:7; 7:14. The fulfillment of these are found in Galatians 4:4 and Matthew 1:18. Needless to say many more Scriptures than these could be used to show this great truth.
 - B. The greatest record of the genealogy of mankind is recorded in the Gospel of Luke concerning the ancestry of Jesus Christ. In Luke 3:23-28, 75 generations are mentioned regarding the lineage of Jesus Christ. It is not likely that anybody has ever traced his ancestry back to Adam, or to that many generations. The reason for this is to show how God preserved the purity of the Jewish race. It also shows the wisdom of God in preserving us a record of the fulfillment of prophecy, even down to the family background of Joseph and Mary. It staggers the imagination to think that God, in His sovereignty, would allow man to take a look into the Holy of Holies and see the very presence of God at work.

III. God planned it because He knew that man would need a Saviour for his sins and grievances against God.

A. To do this He sent the Son to the earth by way of the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ. It is truly amazing that God would choose, in His providence, to allow Mary to carry Himself (God the Son) in her womb and bring forth the God man into the world to save us from the destruction and damning of souls in Hell. O how great and marvelous God is to let us see Him who is matchless in every way.

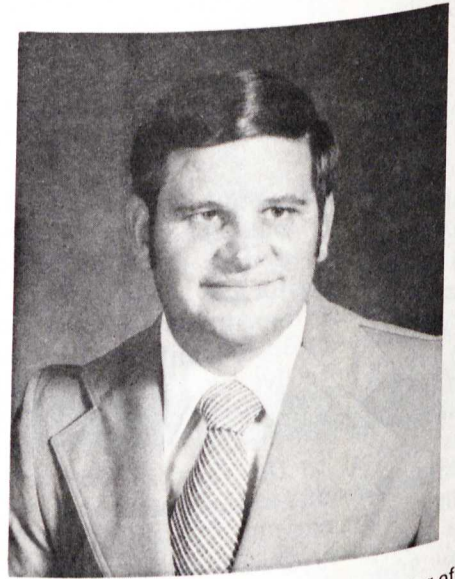
To be sure, if God cared enough to send His Son from His presence to this contaminated world to live among us, He is not going to change His plans for the salvation of man. It is receiving Christ by personal repentance and a godly sorrow for sin. There can be no other way to get to Heaven. This is God's way and He will not change it to fit us. Of course this is for our benefit.

B. When you consider the message of Christmas and the promises God gave to us, it is a very powerful message.

Luke tells us in the first chapter some of the reasons for Christ coming to earth. He tells us that God made a covenant with Abraham to send Christ so that He could grant us the privilege of being delivered out of the hand of our enemies; that He would grant unto us the freedom to serve Him without fear in holiness and righteousness in the face of God all the days of our life; that He would grant to us the knowledge of salvation by letting us give up the hold sin had on us, by way of His tender mercy through the visitation of His Son. He promised to give light to us who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. He promised to guide our feet into the way of peace. Praise the Lord! You know the Bible says that Christ waxed strong in the Spirit

and so can we because of the meaning of Christmas.

Jesus Himself taught us in His model prayer that we were to pray that His kingdom would come into the souls of men and His will would be done on earth as it is in Heaven. All of this is the whole purpose of "Why Christmas." In conclusion let me illustrate this by a passage of Scripture in Isaiah 9:6, 7: "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. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this."



About the writer: Reverend Wayne Wagner is the pastor of the South Fremont Free Will Baptist Church. He is actively involved in the local, state, and national ministries.

CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS

First Church in Kirksville Reaches Goal

The First Free Will Baptist Church in Kirksville, Missouri, set a goal of 125 for Sunday school attendance on October 22, 1978. If the goal was attained the Sunday school superintendent, Don Green, was to throw a pie in the face of the pastor, Reverend Gil Mertz. The goal was exceeded by three. There was a splash!

On the same Sunday, there were four conversions and three followed the Lord in baptism at the evening service.

The church observed its twenty-fifth anniversary

on November 19. A fellowship dinner was enjoyed during the noon hour with a program following in the afternoon. Reverend Andy Lay, a former pastor, was the guest preacher.

First Church in Desoto Receives Award

The Board of Sunday School and Church Training announced that the First Church was the Second Runner-up, Division C, in the recent National Church Training Promotional Campaign, "Developing Disciples." The campaign was conducted during the month of September with 39 Church Training groups in 13 states competing. Reverend Charley Miller is the pastor and Alan Chapman the CTS director.

Parkview Church Receives New Members

Mrs. Cleo Leonard, church reporter, writes that

the Parkview Free Will Baptist Church received into its fellowship, Reverend and Mrs. John Schebaum, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Moore, and Sister Barbara Donnelly.

The Sunday school held its annual picnic and a Halloween party was held for the children. The Thanksgiving dinner was held on November 18. Reverend Guy Leonard is the pastor.

Terrill Road Mission Report

Pastor David Kirby reports that the Sunday school average for October was 43. A new record for Sunday school attendance was set on Sunday, October 22, with a high of 54.

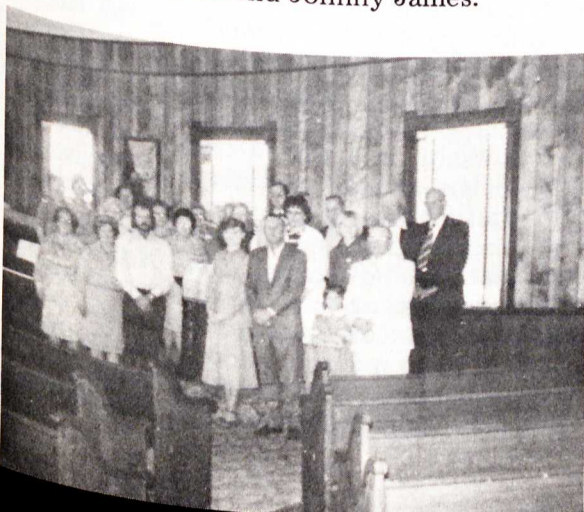
The new building is going up on schedule, and the congregation is looking forward to using the new facilities.



Homecoming at Gray Summit

The church reporter from the Gray Summit Church writes, "Homecoming Day at Gray Summit was a turning point for the church. The people were especially touched by the special singing provided by Shirley Vancil and the Revelators. The message was delivered by Reverend Jim Ives. The Lord blessed with one rededication and several expressed a desire for a closer walk with the Lord. It is wonderful to know that we can claim the promise of the Lord, 'Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest' (Matthew 11:28)."

The pastor is Reverend Johnny James.



History of the Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church

Mrs. Milford House has supplied the following information concerning the Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church, which is probably the oldest church in Missouri.

Sometime between 1832 and 1833 Caswell C. White homesteaded the place now known as the M. H. White farm. In a relatively short time religious services were conducted in his home, which later resulted in the organization of the church. A log building church was built, and this was used until the present church building was erected and moved into on January 17, 1852. The present building has been remodeled twice. The ground for the church building and the cemetery was donated by Eppy Tillery. This resulted in the Free Will Baptists having complete control of the church.

The name of the church in the beginning was, "The Separate Baptist or The Casteel Church."

As some of the members had slaves, a door was built in the southeast corner of the church for their entrance. Several of the names of the slaves appear on the church roll.

Mariam Vaughn, a daughter of one of the charter members, died in 1941, leaving 80 acres of land to be used for the benefit of the church. This made funds possible for the building to be repaired and remodeled.

A Centennial Observance was held September 14, 1952, with about 150 former members and friends gathering for the occasion. Reverend O. T. Alred delivered the message using as his subject, "Dedicating Our Hearts and Lives to Christ." Reverend Melb White prayed the prayer of dedication.

The following have served as pastors: Reverend Clobe Williams, Reverend Will Williams, Reverend Cully, Reverend Leake, Reverend Eniart, Reverend Alsberry, Reverend Hosea Beach, Reverend Vest Lewis, Reverend G. S. Latimer, Reverend Will McKown, Reverend Pryer L. Price, Reverend Cley Mann, Reverend John Steveson, Reverend Frank Mann, Reverend Victor Hadley, Reverend E. T. House (served the longest time-12 years), Reverend Chester Dauber, Reverend Alice Dickey, Reverend Arthur Bailey, Reverend E. H. Corn, Reverend O. T. Allred, Reverend Ralph Cook, and the present pastor Reverend Warren Hall.

Youth Camp Needs

At a recent Youth Camp Board Meeting it was decided that a new fence would be installed around the swimming pool and the sidewalks around the pool would be resurfaced. Also a steam table would be purchased for the kitchen. The steam table and the sidewalks have been recommended by the health department. (Which means sooner or later it will have to be done.) The cost of these projects will be approximately \$2,000. Money for these projects should be earmarked accordingly and mailed to Reverend Charley Miller, Box 207, De Soto, Missouri 63020 or to the State Office, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, Missouri 65536.

Homecoming at Mountain Valley

The Mountain Valley Free Will Baptist Church near Mountain Grove, Missouri was privileged to have as guests Reverend and Mrs. Clarence Burton on September 17, 1978.

Reverend Burton delivered a very inspiring message during the morning worship service.

A delicious old-fashioned dinner was served in the church dining hall. Following the noon meal, a singspiration service highlighted the day. Special music was brought by Rock Chapel, Mountain Grove First, and Wolf Creek churches.

Mountain Valley Church is the oldest Free Will Baptist church in the Mission Association.

Reverend Eddie Day is the pastor.



From the Desk of the Promotional Secretary

by Clarence Burton



October is a beautiful time in the Ozarks! It is a beautiful time anywhere in Missouri. Someone has said, "Only God could color the leaves and harmonize them with the rest of His creation to render a beautiful symphony of colors." But when one pauses to think, only God could have reached into a bowl of 'nothingness' and flung out into space the galaxies and enabled them to respond and react to each other in a harmonious manner. And, only God can take a life and make it and mold it into something that will bring glory to Himself. Surely we can say from the depths of our hearts, "Oh God, how great thou art!"

I had another interesting month in October. I met with the Southeast Missouri Association on October 7, 1978. Reverend and Mrs. O. D. Matthews and the Copper Mines Church hosted the meeting. As always, they handled everything quite well. The preaching was great, the fellowship wonderful, and the food delicious. This association gives fine support to the state and national ministries.

Then on the following Sunday I had the funeral service for Brother Willie Doublin. Brother Doublin left behind a fine family of Christian people and many of them active in the Lebanon area as Free Will Baptists. On the following Monday, I shared the funeral service for Brother Alfred Matheny with Reverend Billy Van Winkle. Brother Matheny left behind his wife and four Christian children. His wife and children are also active in Free Will Baptist churches.

On Monday evening, October 9, I began revival services with Reverend James Crawford and the

Faith Church at Fair Grove, Missouri. This is a relatively new work, and it is evident the Lord is blessing the ministry of the Crawford family and the church. We enjoyed a fine revival with this fine church.

The Leadership Conference, sponsored by the Executive Office of the National Association, met at Hillmont Camp October 16-19. The state moderator, Reverend Bill Evans, and I attended this conference. I was impressed with the program and the manner in which it was conducted. We appreciated the privilege of attending and felt that it was helpful to our state and national ministries.

The St. Francois Association and the St. Louis Association met on Saturday, October 21. Inasmuch as I had attended the St. Francois Association at their last meeting, I met with St. Louis for this one. It was hosted by Reverend Harry Asher and the Overland Church. It was enjoyable to meet with the pastor, his wife, and the folks of the Overland Church, along with the people of the association. The food was delicious, the fellowship wonderful, and the preaching great. This association supports the state and national ministries well.

We had a good day on Sunday, October 22. This was Old-Fashioned Day at the O'Fallon Church. I had the privilege of being with Reverend and Mrs. Lombard and the church on a previous occasion such as this, and it is always enjoyable. The Lord is blessing the ministry of this church and it is exciting to be with them. Following the afternoon service we enjoyed a good time of fellowship with some relatives, Gary and Pat Sutton, and friends the Harlisses and the Marshalls.

The following Saturday I met with the Harmony Quarterly Meeting. This was hosted by the Harmony Church at Seymour, Missouri. The church hosted the meeting very well and everyone enjoyed the food, fellowship, and the preaching of the Word. Every association and quarterly meeting is important for the purpose of hearing reports and taking care of necessary business. But, it is always important to hear the preaching of the Word. May the Lord help us that we shall always honor His Word and preach it in sincerity and power.

I had a very unusual experience on Sunday, October 29. I preached in a church that is 126 years old. The Mt. Zion Church moved into its present

facilities in January, 1852. (An article relative to the church is in this issue of the *Gem*.) Reverend and Mrs. Warren Hall are serving this church and experiencing a steady growth. We enjoyed being with this pastor and his wife and the church family. Also, that afternoon the Northwest Quarterly Conference met with the church. Reverend and Mrs. Vernon Maggart and the Freeman Chapel Church were there for a fellowship dinner and afternoon service. We appreciate the support of this church for the state and national work. The Mozarkians, a gospel singing group, provided special music, and it was a fine day in the Lord with a group of fine Christian people. Those folks sure do spread a big table! That evening I was with a relatively new work. I had the privilege of being with Reverend and Mrs. Jim Stovall and the Sedalia Church. We enjoyed, very much, the wonderful fellowship of

this fine pastor and his wife and the church. This church has supported, for its number, extremely well the state and national work. May the Lord bless them for their work of faith.

May I say to each one of you, "Thanks for what you are doing for the cause of Christ." The *cooperative receipts* are a little ahead of the projected budget. We thank God for this, and we thank you for responding to this united and equitable way of supporting the Lord's work. Let us continue to do this. It is evident the Lord is blessing the labor of the state ministries; therefore, let us continue to keep up this good work and even pray that we shall be able to do more!

Please make all checks payable to and mail to Missouri State Association, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, Missouri 65536.



Points for Pastors

by Jim McAllister

During these last five months we have discussed the importance of the Sunday school; the organization of the Sunday school; the training of the Sunday school teacher; the importance of the church building in respect to the type Sunday school organization you can use; promotion schemes for your church and Sunday school program to build attendance; and this month we will discuss "Retaining members in Sunday school and church."

There is no easy way to retain what you have already reached. Department and grocery stores spend more money retaining their old customers than they spend in reaching new. The old saying "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush" is very true. We must learn how to retain what we already own. I will offer some possibilities:

SITE PREPARATION BEGUN AT RETIREMENT VILLAGE

The surveyors were scheduled to begin work the third week of November at the Retirement Village property in Lebanon. When the surveyors' work is completed the bulldozers will begin building the road into the property. Construction of the dam for the five acre lake is also planned for this fall, weather permitting.

Fund raising efforts for the project are encouraging, according to the Director of Development,

First, give them something when they come. Be sure every Sunday school lesson, every music program, and every sermon is interesting, exciting, and enjoyable. The Word of God should never be dull and boring. And remember, preacher, people going to sleep doesn't mean your sermon is boring. If I remember correctly, a man went to sleep while Paul was preaching. If you'll put into effect what I said in January of 1977 concerning your preaching, train your teachers and workers, make sure the music is organized and prepared, be known for a friendly church, you will retain your people.

Second, visit all absentees. This is one of the most difficult things to accomplish. But if you retain your congregation you must visit absentees. People appreciate a visit from their preacher, teacher, deacon, or fellow church member. Children enjoy hearing from their teacher.

Third, have occasional "big days." On these days have something real special. Promote hard among the absentees.

Fourth, use the follow-up program as a means to insure strong church loyalty among the new converts. People who are loyal don't skip church.

Fifth, remember that even our Lord lost one of His chosen twelve. In the parable of the sower, one of the four seeds was lost. King David had his unfaithful few, and you will lose some also. Don't let it knock the enthusiasm out of you. Continue to be evangelistic and you'll grow even if you do lose a few. Just be sure it is a "few" you lose, and don't lose them through neglect.

Andy Lay. By mid November nearly \$17,000 had been given or promised toward the \$100,000 needed to pay for the land, the site development, the professional fees, interest, and promotion. Lay said more than 20 churches had committed themselves to being "Fair Share Churches," that is to give at least \$6.50 per member toward this project.

Anyone wishing to have more information about the Retirement Village project, may contact the State Office at P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, Missouri 65536, or Reverend Andy Lay at 13 Tanglewood Drive, Carl Junction, Missouri 64834.

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

October, 1978

18.50% Missouri State Home Missions	\$2,501.07
16.00% Promotional Department	2,163.09
4.50% General Fund	608.36
5.50% Youth Camp	743.56
2.00% Christian Board of Education—MBI	270.38
2.00% Sunday School and CTS	270.38
5.00% Retirement Center	675.96
5.00% Retirement Program	675.96
Total	\$7,908.76
6.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	.811.16
11.00% Foreign Missions	1,487.12
8.00% Free Will Baptist Bible College	1,081.55
6.00% Executive Department	811.16
6.00% National Home Missions	811.16
2.00% CTS	270.38
2.00% Board of Retirement and Insurance	270.38
.25% Laymen's Board	33.79
.25% Theological Commission	33.79
Total	4,799.33
Total Disbursements	\$13,519.25

Let us say with the Psalmist, "Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, because His mercy endureth forever."

Let us always be grateful for the blessings the Lord has given to us in past days, present days, and the blessings we anticipate in the future.

MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING

October 1978

Pleasant Ridge	\$10.00
General Fund	\$10.00
Columbia	\$ 5.00
General Fund	\$ 5.00
Lebanon, First	\$ 2.00
General Fund	\$ 2.00
Bethel	\$ 5.00
Moberly	\$ 5.00
Moberly, Terrill Road	\$12.50
General Fund	\$12.50
TOTAL	\$34.50

MISSOURI STATE YOUTH CAMP

Olivet	\$10.00
Flat River, First	10.00
Mt. Pisgah	5.00
Faith, Lemay	10.00
Clark & Clobell Deeds	25.00
Fourth	10.00
Total	\$70.00

CHILDREN'S HOME—GREENEVILLE, TENNESSEE

Myrtle	\$4.94
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BOB CARR ACCOUNT

Merl's Chapel	\$32.50
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HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE

Monett, First	\$20.02
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FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

MO Project	
Columbia	\$ 5.00
Bethel	23.00
TOTAL	\$28.00

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Olivet	\$30.00
V. Maness	\$ 5.00
M. Vandivort	25.00
Mt. Pisgah	\$25.00
M. Vandivort	\$25.00

Bethel	\$14.48
B. Adkisson	\$14.48
South Side	\$65.00
B. Francis	\$65.00
Hugh Cunnynham	\$ 5.00
B. Francis	\$ 5.00
Wolf Creek	\$10.00
M. Vandivort	\$10.00
Monett	\$57.00
General Fund	\$17.00
L. Powell	15.00
B. Francis	25.00
Fourth	\$16.00
V. Maness	\$12.00
B. Francis	4.00
TOTAL	\$222.48

JACK DINWIDDIE ACCOUNT

Fordland	\$10.00
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FOREIGN MISSIONS

West Plains	\$60.00
General Fund	\$50.00
Howard Filkins	10.00
Kingsway	\$57.00
J. Haas	\$57.00
Olivet	\$95.00
B. Poole	\$40.00
M. Willey	20.00
Lynn Miley	10.00
H. Filkins	5.00
L. Sparks	5.00
J. McLain	5.00
J. Pinkerton	10.00
Highland	\$57.00
J. McLain	\$57.00
Kirkville, First	\$36.00
J. Pinkerton	\$36.00
Hickory Grove	\$22.20
S. Lytle	\$22.20
Pleasant Ridge	\$20.00
J. McLain	\$10.00
B. Fulcher	10.00
Columbia	\$20.00
J. Pinkerton	\$15.00
C. Tallent	5.00
Parkview, Desloge	\$38.55
C. Hanna	\$9.64
B. Fulcher	9.64
Dr. Miley	9.64
N. Richards	9.63
Lebanon, First	\$86.00
C. Tallent	\$21.00
J. Pinkerton	32.50
C. Morgan	32.50
Bethel	\$5.00
C. Tallent	\$5.00
South Side	\$306.00
C. Tallent	\$301.00
B. Fulcher	5.00
Hannon	\$86.00
J. Pinkerton	\$25.00
Lynn Miley	25.00
B. Fulcher	20.00
C. Tallent	16.00
Walnut Grove	\$10.00
Lynn Miley	\$10.00
Black Oak	\$40.00
Patrick Dickens	\$40.00
Aulsbury Chapel	\$50.00
B. Fulcher	\$25.00
J. Pinkerton	25.00
Monett, First	\$15.00
C. Tallent	\$15.00
Fourth	\$139.35
S. Lytle	\$89.35
B. Fulcher	25.00
J. Pinkerton	10.00
C. Tallent	15.00
TOTAL	\$1,143.10

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS
October 1978

West Plains, First	\$ 227.00
Kingsway	46.00
Olivet	200.00
Grace	535.00
Mill Creek	56.88
Cape Girardeau	200.00
Highland	30.00
New Life, Licking	9.46
Royal Oak	46.00
Malden	69.96
Kirkville, First	189.28
Victory, Alton	104.00
Hickory Grove	49.26
Purdy	113.00
De Soto	450.00
New Hope, Fredericktown	48.17
Poplar Bluff	46.00
Way Side, Willow Springs	77.00
Cope	29.71
Wolf Creek	25.50
Pleasant Ridge, Urbana	43.00
Columbia	50.00
Parkview, Desloge	117.17
Number One	30.80
Central	780.00
Hurryville	91.00
Hurryville	100.00
Richwoods	149.06
Community	33.87
Lebanon, First	394.00
Mt. Pisgah	60.00
Bethel	235.00
South Side	198.50
Fordland S.S.	154.13
Trinity	390.00
Joplin	273.60
Bailey Chapel	23.00
Marshfield	91.77
Hartville	146.51
Shiloh	36.73
Macedonia, S.S.	13.00
Hannon	171.00

Pleasant Home	193.15
Rolla	44.00
The Jones Family Evangelistic Team	135.77
Houston	301.13
Faith, Lemay	71.06
Happy Home, Ava	82.55
Cabool	102.96
Cuba	42.56
Sedalia	70.36
Fredericktown, First	222.78
Aulsbury Chapel	704.37
Copper Mines	135.00
Berkeley	339.99
Union Grove	425.00
United Free Will Baptist Church	25.00
Freeman Chapel	75.43
Black Oak	10.00
Wolf Creek	123.23
Merl's Chapel	60.22
Fourth	320.00
Byrd	21.53
Viburnum	15.00
Waynesville	135.00
El Dorado Springs, First	5.00
O'Fallon	360.00
South Fremont	39.00
Farmington	1,009.23
Low Ground	92.50
Leadington	257.60
Shiloh	22.08
Faith, Fair Grove	139.40
Myrtle	156.77
Willow Springs	217.49
New Rock Springs	89.44
Hurryville	116.00
South Side	241.28
Parkview, Desloge	140.84
Belton	165.54
Mine La Motte	25.00
Fellowship	50.00
Buffalo	176.27
Monett, First	371.17
Terrill Road, Moberly	54.19
Total	\$13,519.25

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSION GIVING
OCTOBER 5 through NOVEMBER 5, 1978

Hannon	\$ 428.00
West Plains	70.00
Sedalia	143.42
Grace	25.00
Myrtle	44.78
DeSoto	100.00
Houston	142.49
Flat River, First	100.00
Olivet	250.00
Fellowship	15.00
Fourth	40.38
South Fremont	100.00
Victory	22.00
Pleasant Ridge	10.00
Columbia	5.00
Lebanon	2.00
Bethel	5.00
Moberly	12.50
Cooperative Receipts	2,501.07
Total	\$4,016.64

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

Preacher's Seminar

Place: Free Will Baptist Youth Camp
January 8-10

(Monday 4:30 p.m. through Wednesday 12:00 noon)

Cost: \$5.00

Purpose: Discuss and give direction on subjects that should be of special interest to the preacher who is relatively young in the ministry. The subjects will include: The Making of a Preacher, The Preacher and his Denomination, A Financial Plan for the Church, Parliamentary Procedure, Preparing a Church Budget, Ministering the Ordinances of the Church, Hospital Visitation, Funeral Services, Youth and Senior Citizens Ministries, Rules for Church Growth, etc. etc.

A book entitled *Pastoral Helps* will be given to each one that registers.

The Seminar will be conducted by Reverend James McAllister and Reverend Clarence Burton.

Comfortable accomodations will be available at the youth camp for this seminar.

Herman L. Hersey, Director of the National Board of Retirement and Insurance, announced October 13, 1978, that the assets of the denomination's pension plan exceeded one million dollars.

The funds represent deposits of 450 missionaries, pastors, and denominational employees together with the deposits of 34 separate trust funds of individuals, churches, and denominational agencies.

Director Hersey says, "We are thankful our laity see the need to provide adequate retirement benefits for those who serve us. We expect many more churches to become part of this program."

A second annual Writers' Contest is being sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Sunday School and Church Training Department, according to Dr. Roger C. Reeds, General Director. The contest will have seven categories and will allow for multiple entries.

The purpose of the writers' contest is twofold: (1) to give an opportunity for expression and recognition of creative writing skills, and (2) to develop and/or discover latent and/or new talent within the denomination.

Deadline for entries is March 5, 1979. Entries and registration fee of \$10.00 should be sent to: Dr. Malcolm C. Fry, SS & CT Writers' Contest, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, Tennessee 37217.

Rules of Entry

1. Any member of a church in the National Association of Free Will Baptists may enter.

2. Each entry must be religious in nature and the original, unpublished work of the contestant.

3. Each typewritten page should have twenty-five doubled spaced lines of type. Each line should be approximately seventy spaces in length. The writer's name and address, as well as the approximate total number of words in the entry, should be placed in the upper right hand corner of the first page.

4. Entries must be postmarked no later than March 5, 1979. Those arriving after March 15, 1979, cannot be considered.

5. A contestant may submit an entry in two categories: however, he/she is eligible for first place in only one category. All entries become the property of the Free Will Baptist Sunday School and Church Training Department.

6. Winners will be announced in press releases to editors of Free Will Baptist state papers where applicable, in *Contact* magazine and *Scope*.

7. Winning entries may be published in *Scope* magazine, space, time and priorities permitting.

Categories

1. *Exegesis/Sermon*. Each exegesis should develop a brief passage of the Scriptures not exceeding ten verses in length. Each entry should be at least ten pages in length but not more than fourteen pages.

Sermon text and subject are left to the discretion of the writer.

2. *Short Story*. A short story may be any length but not exceeding fourteen pages.

3. *Poetry*. Rhymed or unrhymed verses of not more than one hundred lines which develop a central theme or image.

4. *Tract*. Gospel tracts or tracts on special subjects are acceptable. These should be short enough to be published in the usual tract format.

5. *Plays/Skits*. Not to exceed fourteen pages in length, plays or skits should contain plot, theme, dialogue, characterization, setting, suggested set design, and stage directions.

6. *Book*. A book entry may be of any nature as long as it serves a religious purpose. Suggestions include devotional guides, novels, commentaries, guides to practical Christian living, etc. No length is specified.

7. *Art/Visuals*. A painting, drawing, poster, slides adhering to the main principles of element and design.

Criteria

Entries will be judged on creativity, composition techniques, originality, expertise of the literary or art form selected, impact and theme content.

Awards

In each of the seven categories the awards are:

- First place— \$50.00
- Second place— \$25.00
- Third place— \$10.00
- Fourth place— Books

INAUGURAL COMMITTEE PLANS TO HONOR DR. L. C. JOHNSON

Since Dr. L. C. Johnson has announced that he will retire as president of Free Will Baptist Bible College June 1, 1979, alumni and other friends have laid plans to honor him during the 1979 Bible Conference, March 11-15. These plans are being directed by the Inaugural Committee, which is also planning the installation of Dr. Charles A. Thigpen as the new president.

The Alumni Association is planning a special program in Dr. Johnson's honor for Tuesday afternoon, March 13. President Billy Bevan is in charge and says that all alumni have been contacted concerning the details of the program. Tickets are available from the Alumni Association secretary for \$7.50.

The Board of Trustees will recognize many of the milestones in Dr. Johnson's life in a program scheduled for Wednesday morning, March 14. The program is open to all.

The Committee will present Dr. Johnson with a compilation of letters from alumni and other friends. Anyone who wishes to include a letter to Dr. Johnson should write or type it on a standard

8½" by 11" sheet and send it to the Inaugural Committee, in care of the college. The deadline for letters that are to be bound in book form is February 1, 1979.

The members of the Inaugural Committee are Rev. Randy Cox, chairman; Rev. Billy Bevan; Rev. Richard Cordell; Dr. Charles Hampton; and Rev. Bert Tippett.

If your juniors and seniors are unable to attend the fall Welcome Days, make plans now for them to come Apr. 12-14, 1979. Reservations have already been received for the spring Welcome Days, so get your reservations in as soon as possible!

For reservations or further information, contact:

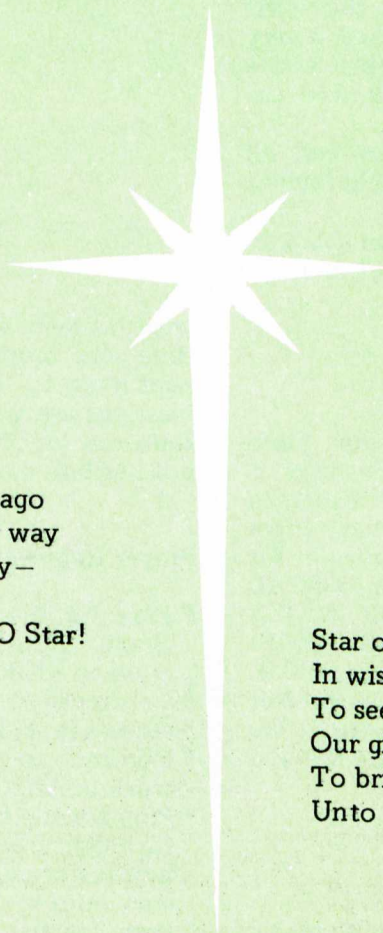
Mr. Tom Sass
Free Will Baptist Bible College
P.O. Box 50117
Nashville, TN 37205

The Christian Service program of Free Will Baptist Bible College is in full swing, with 68 groups going out weekly. Every student at FWBBC is preaching, teaching, witnessing, directing a music program, or involved in some other form of Christian Service.

Dr. Joseph G. Ange, Director of Religious Activities, reports the following totals for the month of September:

Musical Numbers	738
Message Delievered	330
Classes Taught	347
Persons Dealt With	1,623
Persons Saved	174
Other Decisions	154
Tracts Distributed	8,137

Star of the East



Star of the East, that long ago
Brought wise men on their way
The Child of Bethlehem lay—
Above the Syrian hill afar
Thou shinest out tonight, O Star!

Star of the East! Show us the way
In wisdom undefiled
To seek that manger out and lay
Our gifts before the Child—
To bring our hearts and offer them
Unto our King in Bethlehem!

Eugene Field

Woman's Page



Shirley Bowden, editor

Guest Speakers at O'Fallon

The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church of O'Fallon, Missouri, was privileged to have Dr. Mary Ruth Wisehart as a guest speaker on August 13, 1978. Dr. Wisehart spoke to the women regarding the history and the purpose of the Woman's Auxiliary. She also challenged each woman in the work of the auxiliary. An offering was taken for WNAC. On September 17, 1978, Reverend Carlisle Hanna, missionary to India, spoke at our Sunday evening service. He told the church about some of the problems they faced when they first entered the mission field. He also preached a very challenging message. An offering was taken and a time of fellowship and refreshments followed the service in honor of the Hannas.

A Christmas Bazaar is being planned and all monies received will be sent to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Greeneville, Tennessee.

(Submitted by the editor of the Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church in O'Fallon.)

State Projects

The money for the state projects our State Woman's Auxiliary has adopted for the year is coming in to the state treasurer steadily. Nineteen months left in the year to get all the monies in for these projects. **TREASURERS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL: YOUR DATE TO CLOSE YOUR BOOKS IS APRIL 15, AND DISTRICT TREASURERS: YOUR DATE TO CLOSE YOUR BOOKS IS APRIL 25.** The date to have the money in for the project entitled "Vehicle for the Vandivorts" is **MARCH 15. THIS MUST BE TO BLANCHE WISEHART BY THIS DATE.**

Merry Christmas

The State Officers of the Missouri State Woman's Auxiliary want to send greetings for a wonderful Christ filled Christmas and a prosperous New Year to the women in the state. God has blessed the state

CEM
REV R OCFFLEY
653 RIVER ROUGE
NASHVILLE TN 37209

COMP

with women such as you who have given of your time and money to the projects in the past. God continues to bless each year, and we know His blessings are with us this year. If any officer of the state can be of any help to your auxiliary, please do not hesitate to call upon them.

Prayer Requests for December

- * Pray for the Ernie Deeds family as they work in Brazil. Housing has been a problem as it costs close to \$1,000 per month for housing.
- * Continue to pray for Charolette Tallent as she studies in Albertville, France.
- * Continue to pray for the Mark Vandivorts as they work in Arizona.
- * Pray for the Dennis Teagues, missionaries home on furlough from France. They have a son born 3 months premature. The baby is gaining weight and continues to make progress.
- * Pray for the Jerry Pinkertons as they work with the boys in the school in the Ivory Coast.
- * Pray for the Dr. Mileys as they work in the hospital in the Ivory Coast.