

GEM

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Free Will Baptist

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"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"



SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1979-80

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES FOR October 1979-September 1980

CHURCH	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.
Beacon		90	94	97	123		120	94	101			
Belton	33	32	31	32	32	48	50	49	45		38	
Buffalo	79	61	56	57	54	115			80	76	88	81
Calvary, Conway				64	62	69	76	73	69	69		
Calvary Fellowship	153	112	110	110	114	152						
Cape Girardeau	80	66	69									
Central	52	47	55	68	62	87	100	78				
Copper Mines	66	68	73	86	77	76	82	83				
Cuba				68	73	75	82	62	62	54	42	46
DeSoto				156	151	200						
Farmington, First	670			529	526	564	599	557	546	567	598	633
Flat River, First	224	199	195	192	168	198	210		186			
Fourth	122	139	133	137	143	160	147	148				
Fredericktown, First	129	115	127	118	94	121		156	112	108	114	
Grant Avenue	133	134		128	123	131	120		129	132	125	141
Gray Summit	17	10	12	11		15	20	20	30	29	30	28
Hannon	68	74	77	67	69	81	83	70	73	79	78	80
Harmony, KC											57	54
Hartville	79	83	87	86	87	84	96					
Houston	75	70	81	85	76							
Kirksville, First	125	120	119	113					63	60	60	
Lebanon, First	119	104	104	101	90	105	113	111	116	105		
Marshfield	59	58	52	53	54	59	60					47
Monett, First	156	159	136	144	94	135	132					
Parkview, Desloge	45	45	50	48	41	51	64	63	57	51	52	49
Richwoods	44	48	41	44	29	38	52	40	48	34	32	
South Side		84	98	82								
Terrill Road	21	30		31	29	58						
St. Clair, Oak Hill	74	64	66	64	55	62	59	58	56	37	38	
Thayer	136	134	139	144	143	147	137	148	153	149	167	
Trinity	152	149	150	148	150		159	135	132	124	126	
Twin Oak	74	80	82	87	78	79	81	84	90	89	82	80
Victory	64	62	72									
Willow Springs	98	103	112	105	88	101	110	103	106	107		106

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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In Loving Memory



Don Lombard



Russell Spurgeon



Lawrence Thompson

Clarence Burton, editor

Three dedicated, committed, consecrated Free Will Baptist preachers, Reverend Don Lombard, Reverend Russell Spurgeon, and Reverend Lawrence Thompson, were called home to be with the Lord. (I listed them in alphabetical order because to those of us who know them, each one is number one.) They were killed in a plane crash September 17, 1980, in an attempt to land at the Spirit of St. Louis Airport in St. Louis County. They were returning from a seminar in Kansas City, Missouri.

These brother-preachers were personal friends of mine. I met Russell and Lawrence a short time after they announced their call to the ministry, and I met Don shortly after he assumed the pastorate at the O'Fallon Church. They were dedicated, committed, and consecrated to the task of preaching the gospel, ministering to the church, and endeavoring to win the unsaved to Jesus.

They were alike in many ways. They enjoyed preaching the gospel, studying the Word, and ministering as shepherd to the local church. They were alike in that each one had a sense of humor and tasteful wit. Lawrence had an unlimited supply of jokes; Don could make any story funny; and Russell was always able in a quick "witty" way to get the final punch line.

There is no way by which one could properly evaluate the worth of these preachers to the Missouri State Association and the National Association. (To be sure there is no way to evaluate their worth to the churches they were serving and to their dear families.) The vacancy seems impossible to fill. Don and Lawrence were serving on the Missouri State Home Missions Board, and Russell was serving on the Christian Board of Education and on the Retirement Village Board of Directors. They labored in the spirit of love and unity for the advancement of the cause of Christ and the benefit of our state and national ministries. But we do not accept this tragedy as defeat.

Could we not say that in the sovereign will of God there are no "accidents" for the person that is fulfilling God's plan for his life? Some finish the prescribed

course at a different time than others. But each one that is endeavoring to do God's will can say with the Apostle Paul, "I have fought a good fight, *I have finished my course*, I have kept the faith; Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them that love his appearing."

May the sweet aroma of love, joy, and faithfulness, which characterized the lives of these preachers, fill our churches, our Missouri State Association, and our National Association as we continue to serve the One who loved us and gave Himself for us, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Russell B. Spurgeon was born September 23, 1932, near Mtn. Grove, Missouri. He was converted and made profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ at the age of 19. He surrendered and announced his call to preach the gospel at the age of twenty-one.

Reverend Spurgeon attended the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee. He was graduated with the Bachelor of Arts degree from Missouri Baptist College, St. Louis, Missouri, in 1975.

He served these pastorates: Myrtle Free Will Baptist Church, Myrtle, MO; Victory Mission Church, Kansas City, MO; Third Free Will Baptist Church, St. Louis, MO; and the church he was serving at the time of his death, Trinity Church, Bridgeton, MO.

Reverend Spurgeon served on various District and State Boards. He also served a total of thirteen years on the National Church Training Service Board. The positions to which he was elected on the state and national level reflected that he had a deep commitment to teaching and training the Christian that he or she might be a more effective servant of the Lord.

He is survived by his wife Elaine of the home in Bridgeton, Missouri; one son Mark at home; two daughters, Jean Ann Matthews of Bridgeton, MO, and Janet Carol Dumm of St. Ann; and two grandchildren Michael Matthews and Lukas Dumm; his father and step-mother, Mr. and Mrs. Flint Spurgeon of Mtn. Grove, MO; and one brother Elbert Spurgeon of Mtn. Grove, MO.

Churches People *AND* Events

Reflections on Pastor-Layman Seminar

by Clarence Burton

"Lord Open The Heavens—A Heart Cry for Revival!" is a book containing messages written and preached by Dr. Stephen Olford. Those who attended the recent Pastor-Layman Seminar experienced a measure of this. Dr. Olford and Dr. Billy Melvin were the guest preachers.

The following are typical remarks: a pastor—"What a wonderful time of revival. I have experienced one"; a pastor's wife—"I'll be a new wife and person. I have been changed"; a layman—"I have never been in a meeting where I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit so strongly—it is wonderful."

When asked about the possibility of another seminar with Dr. Olford and Dr. Melvin as guest preachers, the congregation responded with a resounding, yes!

The Christian Board of Education handled the seminar in a very capable and adequate manner. Reverend Bob Francis became the chairman of the board, following the death of Reverend Russell Spurgeon. An expression of thanks is due Rev. Francis, Dr. N. R. Smith, Brother Gene Wilfong, and Reverend Tim Eaton.

Greetings From the Twin Oak Church

Our Sunday school attendance has been very good considering we have had several out because of sickness, and we have several elderly people in our congregation. We are thankful for the elderly people and their faithfulness to the church. Brother Roy Thomas is the adult teacher, and they had the largest number in their class for five consecutive Sundays.

The church enjoyed a fine revival with Reverend Green serving as the evangelist. The services were held beginning October 13.

We are so thankful for the faithful members of the church who give their tithes and offerings to meet the needs and even beyond the needs. We would like for others to pray with us that the Lord will stir our hearts and the church houses will be filled and that each one will enjoy a fuller Christian life.

Children's Church at Richwoods

Mrs. Junior Lewis, church reporter, writes, We have begun a Children's Church at Richwoods Free Will Baptist Church. It is doing well with an average attendance of fifteen. Our pastor Reverend Elvus Reed has resigned. Pray with us that the Lord will lead a new pastor to the church.

Donald W. Lombard was born January 14, 1944, at Monett, Missouri. He was converted and made profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ at an early age. He surrendered and announced his call to preach the gospel in June 1968.

Reverend Lombard attended Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri. He later attended the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, and was graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1968.

His pastorates include Bright Light Free Will Baptist Church in Bryan, Texas, and the First Church, O'Fallon, Missouri. He was serving the church at O'Fallon, Missouri, at the time of his death.

Reverend Lombard served in various offices in District and State work. At the time of his death, he was serving on the Missouri State Home Missions Board.

He was actively involved in community activities. He was serving as Chaplain in Charge of the Chaplaincy Program of the O'Fallon Police Department and had served with the chaplaincy program for several years. He received special recognition as policeman of the month for meritorious service in 1979. He was recently named regional chaplain of the National Chaplaincy Program.

He is survived by his wife Carolyn of the home in O'Fallon, Missouri; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Laman Lombard, Monett, Mo; one sister, Marilyn Hull, Monett, Mo; five brothers—Gerald, Danny, Russell and Larry of Monett, and Tom of Portland, Oregon; a grandmother, Mrs. Hazel McClure of Monett.

Lawrence Delmon Thompson was born May 16, 1925, at Salem, Missouri. He was converted and made profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ at the age of 25, while a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Berkeley, Missouri. He surrendered and announced his call to preach the gospel in 1951. He later led in organizing a mission church at Salem, Missouri in 1952.

During his twenty-eight and one-half years in the pastorate he served the following churches: Bear Point Free Will Baptist Church, Sesser, Illinois; Riverview Free Will Baptist Church, Bettendorf, Iowa; Victory Free Will Baptist Church, Kansas City, Missouri; and he was serving the Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Union, Missouri, at the time of his death.

Reverend Thompson served on various District and State Boards. He will be remembered especially for the many revivals in which he served as the evangelist, his dedication to the ministry of Missouri State Home Missions, and his wit and humor.

He is survived by his wife Ruth of the home in St. Clair, Missouri; two sons, Danny of St. Louis and Michael of Los Angeles, California; one daughter, Pam Painter, son-in-law Reverend David Painter, and two grandsons, Micah and Marcus; one grandmother, Christy Thompson all of Kansas City; his daughter, Bertha Thompson, Salem; four sisters, Pauline of Arnold, MO, Maxine of Taft, CA., Gladys of Moline, ILL. and Melva of Bunker, MO; three brothers, Paul of Salem, Roy of Granite City, ILL, and Larry of St. Louis, MO.

Report From Neosho

Mrs. Hattie McIlvaine, reporter, writes, The Neosho Free Will Baptist Church had two girls representing our church for one week of camp and eight that attended the Three Day Session in July.

On August 22 and 23 the church had an overnight campout at Lanagan City Park. There were 36 people attending on Friday night with 24 staying through Saturday. There were four baptisms in Indian Creek. We had 14 that attended the CTS Meeting at the Jones Chapel Church.

The Neosho Fall Arts & Crafts Festival on October 4 was a big success. Our food concession booth and our youth arts & craft booth did very well.



Neosho Church

The new addition to our church is progressing well and will soon be ready for use. The new addition will be used for Sunday school class rooms, allowing more room in the auditorium for additional pews.

A singing group, "The Sounds of Joy," has grown to eight regular members. The girls range in age from 7 to 14. The adult group and the singing group sing at the local nursing home each Wednesday evening before CTS and Prayer Service.

We now have a new Recreation Committee, consisting of 2 children and 3 adults. They will plan our parties, suppers, and other church activities. They are now working on a Halloween party.

The average attendance in Sunday school for August was 48. It was 47 in September.

South Side Church Celebrates Anniversary

On Sunday, September 29, 1980, the South Side Church celebrated its 35th Anniversary. The church observed an all-day service with dinner in the fellowship hall and gospel singing in the afternoon. Reverend Ed Cook, a former member of the church, began revival services at the evening worship. Reverend Jim Mertz is the pastor.

Ruth Ann Cartee Day at Leadington

The Leadington Free Will Baptist Church observed Sunday, August 14, as Ruth Ann Cartee Day. The pastor, Reverend James Barker, directed the congregation in a special day of service in honor of Ruth Ann. She is a student at the Free Will Baptist Bible College.



Near the close of the Morning Worship Service, Brother Barker presented a "Money Tree" to Miss Cartee. The tree produced \$450.00. Lunch and fellowship were enjoyed by everyone.

Happenings at Mt. Zion Church

Church reporter, Sharon Bowers, writes, There was one profession of faith on Sunday, September 14, with an attendance of 49.

On Saturday evening, September 20, the Tidemans Quartet was at the Mt. Zion Church for a special singing. Approximately 130 people enjoyed the service. The church also gave Reverend Johnny Hoseapple, the pastor, a birthday party.

The hayride for the young people was very successful with approximately 35 young people participating. Brother Mack Holland, the youth director, is to be commended. The young people also enjoyed a Taco Party on September 28. Reverend Grover Pingleton delivered the evening message.

We are glad to have Brother Bob Ross back with us. He has been with his father who has been quite ill.

Let us all pray that we can get prayer back in the schools.

Report From the United Church

During the month of August the United Church experienced five professions of faith in the Lord. As of August 25 the church has experienced fifteen professions of faith, and fifty-nine have united with the church since it began in May 1978. The pastor's wife, Sister Hanson, said, "We are praising the Lord for all His blessings."

Church reporter, Brenda Merseal, writes the church held revival services October 22 through October 25 with Reverend Elvus Reed serving as the evangelist. The church observed Homecoming Day Services on Sunday October 26. Reverend Duaine Hanson is the pastor.

Huffman's Celebrate 25th Anniversary

Gerald and Shirley Huffman celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary on October 12, 1980. The Open House occasion was observed in Fredericktown, Missouri, at the Community Building in the City Park. A great number of friends and relatives gathered for the celebration.

On October 14, 1955, Gerald Huffman and Shirley Underwood Huffman were united in marriage by Reverend Glen Rehkop. Louise Underwood Vandivort, sister of the bride, and Don Huffman, brother of the groom, were the attendants.

The Huffmans have four children, Steve, 24, Robert, 21, Peggy, 19, and Barbie, 12. They are also thankful for their daughter-in-law, Sharon and their son-in-law, Brad Yount.

They are known throughout the Leadbelt Area as the "Singing Huffman Family." They have blessed the hearts of hundreds of people with their singing and their dedicated lives. They have contributed greatly to the labor of the Copper Mines Free Will Baptist Church, where they have their membership. Gerald is a deacon and also serves as song leader. The Huffman Family is a very prominent family in the church and in the community.

Reverend and Mrs. Wes Ryder, Wendie and Aaron are serving as pastor and family of the church.



Mr. and Mrs. Huffman

Cantrells Working in Prison Ministry

Virgil and Bernice Cantrell moved to Okeechobee, Florida, from Myrtle, Missouri. Since moving to Florida the Cantrells have been involved in a prison ministry. They have experienced 108 prisoners making profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ since March 1979.

The photo shows Bernice and Virgil holding the hand of a prisoner named Carolyn Schull. (They are not allowed to take pictures of the prisoners.) Since meeting the Cantrells and receiving Christ as Savior,

Carolyn gave this testimony: "I'm not the same person I was when I came in here. God can do miracles. I love them, Bernice and Virgil. I've never had the feeling I have had since meeting the Cantrells. I was in sad shape but now I'm not myself-I've got God." Carolyn had been in jail since February on an attempted murder charge. She was on drugs at the time she and another woman got involved in a fight. Her husband is in the state penitentiary in Alabama. She has not heard from him in seventeen years. She stated that "I will continue to witness for the Lord wherever I go."



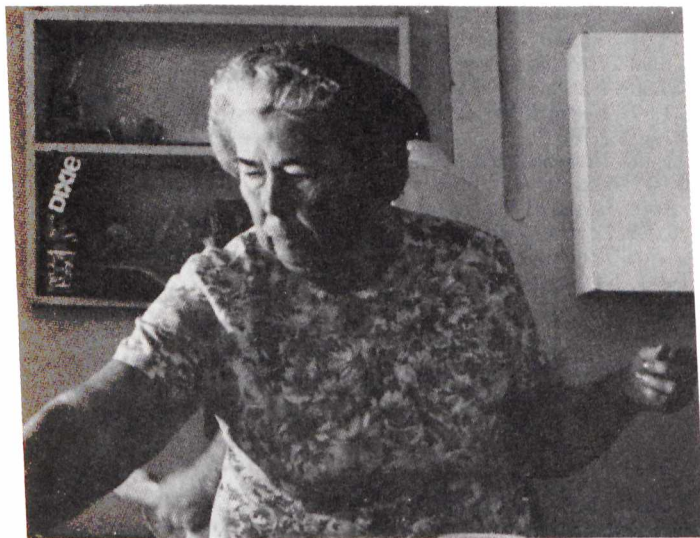
Virgil and Bernice Cantrell

Virgil and Bernice have received many letters from prisoners (some that have been released), thanking them for their love and kindness and most of all for witnessing to them about the Lord. The Cantrells plan to continue this ministry as long as they feel the Lord is leading them to do this. Their address is: Virgil Cantrell, Rt. 7, R-Bar Estates 4, Okeechobee, Florida 33472.

Minnie Jackson Day at Richwoods

Miss Minnie Jackson, a long-time active member of the Richwoods Free Will Baptist Church, was given special recognition on June 1, 1980. This day was designated as "Minnie Jackson Day." She became a member of the church in 1941. (At present she is living in a senior citizen complex at Potosi, Missouri.)

Miss Jackson's life has centered around Bible study, church attendance, and Quarterly Meetings. She taught the Adult Class for many years or as she would say "Stand in the Gap."



Miss Minnie Jackson

Several preachers have served as her pastor: Harvey Hill, Albert Halbrook, Willard Halbrook, Bill Reeves, Albert Tucker, Bob Wright, Roger Reeds, Bud Arnold, Leslie Logston, Dale Skiles, Gaylord Huckaby, Wayne Adrian, Delmer Welker, Pinkney Askren, Esley Cronk, and Elvus Reed. Brother Reed states, "I was her pastor for six years and I certainly do miss her. I especially miss her 'amens' and her kind remarks regarding the message as she went out the door."

Overland's Offering of Praise

Church reporter, Miriam Wilhite, writes, We are still rejoicing in God's abundant blessings upon our church. During the last few months, we have had seventeen people unite with the church. In the past year, we have seen our attendance double.

Recently an eighteen year old boy made profession of faith. As a result of this, his father began attending and a short time later committed his life to the Lord.

A short time ago a man, for whom the church has been praying, gave his life to Jesus. In these days when sin abounds and Satan's power is manifested in many ways, it is surely refreshing to be reminded that the God we serve is able to deliver and change lives.

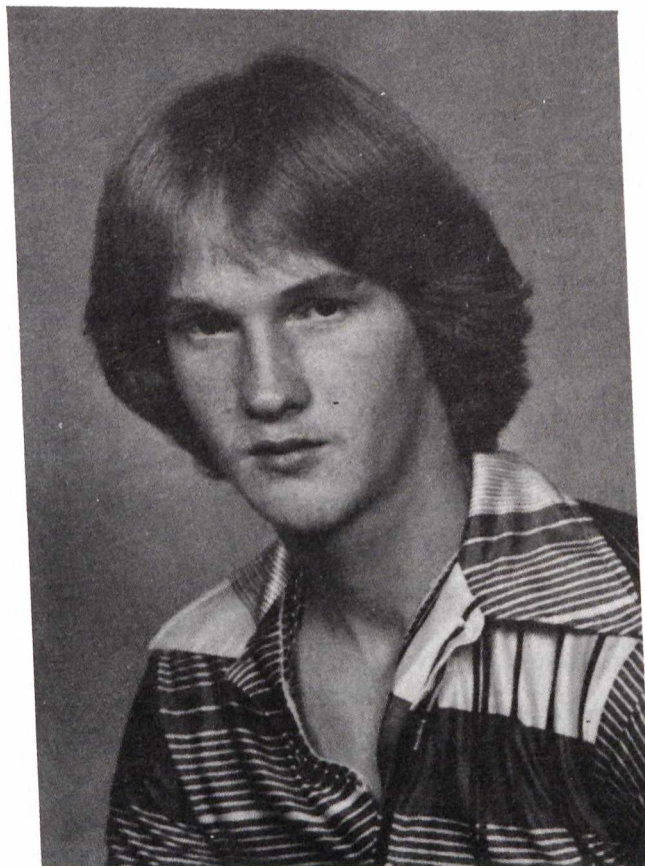
We pray that the Lord will add His blessings to each of our sister churches and to our dear brothers and sisters who faithfully serve the Lord and are looking for His appearing. May we say with the Apostle Paul, "May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you."

In Memory of Sam Statler

Sam Statler, age 16, of Marquand, Missouri, was killed in a traffic accident Sunday, September 14, in Madison County Missouri. He was the son of Reverend and Mrs. Floyd Statler.

Services were held at the Union Light Church on Wednesday afternoon with Reverend Ken Beavers and Reverend Raymond Michaels officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery. Members of Sam's class at Meadow Heights High School were the pallbearers.

Brother Floyd Statler, the father, wrote these words in memory. "It seems that in the hurry of his coming and going around our place that Sam's mother was always having to say at mealtime, 'Save some for Sam, he'll be in soon.' Also for the small things of life, like gas for the car and spending money, a little always had to be saved for Sam. Now that the Lord has called Sam away from us, I realize that the Lord has also said to the angels, 'I've saved this place for Sam.'"



Sam Statler

Rare Free Will Baptist Books: some 100-150 years old are available from Reverend George C. Lee, 1806 Wayne Memorial Drive, Goldsboro, N.C. 27530. A list of the books will be mailed on request.

Available for Evangelistic Work; Reverend Gene Cullum, 5000 Edmondson Pike, Nashville, TN 37211, Ph. 615-331-5938

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS August 1980

Faith, Fair Grove	\$101.50
Ooskalooza	17.79
Neosho	10.00
Cabool	142.41
Mt. Zion, Gower	44.00
O'Fallon	140.00
Mtn. Grove, First	584.00
Royal Oak	50.00
Victory, Alton	90.00
Fordland	190.22
Mtn. Grove, First	435.82
Mt. Pisgah	56.00
Fredericktown	254.00
Bailey Chapel, Tunas	32.00
Buffalo	352.87
Olivet	200.00
Mill Creek	108.24
Sedalia	102.90
Terrill Road	91.20
Columbia	50.00
Mtn. Valley	152.72
Belton	114.11
Harmony, K.C.	189.00
Hurryville	97.30
Houston	127.50
Number One	33.00
Bismark	80.00
Community	103.52
Parkview	165.18
Mt. Zion, Thayer	22.00
Calvary, Conway	116.00
Mine La Motte	16.25
Union Grove	100.00
Faith, Lemay	108.50
West Plains, First	300.00
Hannon	154.00
Cape Girardeau	100.00
Eastern Gate	15.47
Rock Chapel	253.55
South Side	209.80
Lebanon, First	276.52
Wolf Creek	159.95
Rolla	111.16
Flat River, First	372.20
Happy Home	74.64
Kingsway	50.00
Cedar Ridge	75.80
Hartville	154.54
Macedonia	14.00
Verdella	129.18
New Harmony	6.58
Purdy	124.00
The Jones Family	316.53
Berkeley	379.38
Sunnyview	23.00
Black Oak	10.00
Richwoods	36.26
Thayer	188.97
Beacon	402.80
Pleasant Hill	33.18
Copper Mines	130.67
Marshfield	131.96
Oak Hill, Union	316.62
Liberty	150.00
Grace	558.00
Byrd	10.82
El Dorado Springs, First	5.00
Leadington	332.51
Fourth	262.00
DeSoto	500.00
Beacon	368.50
Farmington	950.00
Viburnum	30.00
Joplin	241.30
Mt. Vernon	66.80
Merl's Chapel	59.50
Hurryville	159.88

Willow Springs	194.79
Total	\$12,955.46

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS August 1980

18.50% MO State Home Missions	\$2,396.76
16.00% Promotional Dept.	2,072.87
4.50% General fund	583.00
5.50% Youth Camp	712.55
2.00% Christian Board of Education	259.11
2.00% Sunday School & CTS	259.11
5.00% Retirement Program	647.77
5.00% Retirement Center	647.77
2.00% Possible Purchase of Ret. Unit	259.11
6.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	\$777.34
33.50% National Departments	\$4,340.07
21.50% Foreign Missions	\$933.12
21.50% FWBBC	933.12
15.50% National Home Missions	672.71
30.00% Executive Department	1,302.02
8.00% Board of Ret. & Ins.	347.20
3.00% Layman's Board	130.20
.50% Theological Commission	21.70
Total Disbursements	\$12,955.46

This month closed at a time when some churches were unable to get their checks to the State Office. This is reflected in our receipts being lower than normal. There should be a noticeable increase reflected in next month's receipts. May the Lord bless the faithfulness of every pastor and church.

MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING August 1980

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Mtn. Grove, First	\$197.50
Wanda Carries	\$11.50
(Sum. Missionary)	
Mike Cousineau	35.00
Crowson	31.00
General Fund	120.00
Olivet	\$80.00
Larry Inscoe	\$20.00
Patsy VanHook	20.00
Lonnie Sparks	20.00
Bobby Poole	20.00
Columbia	\$90.00
Larry Inscoe	\$30.00
Moser	20.00
General Fund	5.00
Jerry Pinkerton	5.00
Jim McLain	20.00
Howard Filkins	10.00
Springfield, First	\$500.00
Archie Mayhew	\$500.00
Hannon	\$77.00
Howard Filkins	\$25.00
Jerry Pinkerton	25.00
Steve Lytle	15.00
S. Reeves	12.00
Rock Chapel	\$10.00
Dock Caton	\$10.00
South Side	\$115.00
Charolette Tallent	\$85.00
Howard Filkins	30.00
Lebanon, First	\$81.00
Steve Lytle	\$10.71
Lynn Miley	10.71
Charolette Tallent	11.71
Jim McLain	10.71
Clint Morgan	2.50
Jerry Pinkerton	13.21
Howard Filkins	10.74
C. Hanna	10.71

Flat River, First	\$100.00	
General Fund	\$100.00	
New Harmony	\$45.56	
Lynn Miley	\$22.78	
Jim McLain	22.78	
Aulsbury Chapel	\$50.00	
Howard Filkins	\$25.00	
Jerry Pinkerton	25.00	
Black Oak	\$20.00	
C. Hanna	\$20.00	
Thayer	\$5.00	
Jerry Pinkerton	\$5.00	
Fourth	\$64.00	
C. Tallent	\$10.00	
Steve Lytle	54.00	
Dale Crossgrove	\$15.00	
Jim McLain	\$15.00	
Low Ground	\$5.00	
Jim McLain	\$5.00	
Beacon	\$5.00	
General Fund	\$5.00	
Merl's Chapel	\$41.55	
General Fund	\$41.55	
Total	\$1,501.61	

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Mtn. Grove, First	\$145.50	
M. Vandivort	\$23.00	
General Fund	2.50	
H. Bowers	120.00	
Mt. Pisgah	\$55.00	
H. Bowers	\$30.00	
M. Vandivort	25.00	
Fredericktown, First	\$47.00	
H. Bowers	\$47.00	
Olivet	\$15.00	
V. Maness	\$15.00	
Rock Chapel	\$25.00	
H. Bowers	\$15.00	
J. O'Dell	10.00	
Wolf Creek	\$20.00	
H. Bowers	\$5.00	
M. Vandivort	15.00	
Rolla	\$54.00	
M. Vandivort	\$50.00	
J. O'Dell	4.00	
Flat River, First	\$110.00	
General Fund	\$100.00	
M. Vandivort	10.00	
Berkeley	\$72.00	
H. Bowers	\$22.00	
General Fund	50.00	
Lebanon, First	\$75.00	
V. Maness	\$18.75	
H. Bowers	18.75	
J. O'Dell	18.75	
M. Vandivort	18.75	
Thayer	\$709.00	
Bowers Land fund	\$520.00	
Bowers	69.00	
Messer	15.00	
Vandivort	105.00	
Fourth	\$12.00	
V. Maness	\$12.00	
Low Ground	\$5.00	
M. Vandivort	\$5.00	
Beacon	\$30.00	
General Fund	\$30.00	
Columbia	\$20.00	
M. Vandivort	\$20.00	
Total	\$1,394.50	

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS

Mtn. Grove, First	\$2.50	
General Fund	\$2.50	
Fredericktown, First	\$12.00	
Branson	\$12.00	

Terrill Road	\$8.50	
General Fund	\$8.50	
Columbia	\$5.00	
General Fund	\$5.00	
Hazel Creek	\$20.00	
General Fund	\$20.00	
Eastern Gate	\$70.20	
Branson	\$70.20	
Lebanon	\$2.00	
Branson	\$2.00	
Eva Brown, St. Louis	\$10.00	
Branson	\$10.00	
Flat River, First	\$100.00	
General Fund	\$100.00	
New Harmony	\$22.78	
Moberly	\$22.78	
Berkeley	\$60.00	
General Fund	\$50.00	
Branson	10.00	
Aulsbury Chapel	\$10.00	
Branson	\$10.00	
Beacon	\$35.00	
Branson	\$25.00	
Carthage	10.00	
Low Ground	\$5.00	
Branson	\$5.00	
Total	\$362.98	

WORLD VISION

Beacon Church, Raytown, MO	\$178.45	
For Somolia		

HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE

Mtn. Grove, First	\$62.00	
Lebanon, First	\$75.00	
Willow Springs	\$15.00	
Total	\$152.00	

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Mtn. Grove, First	\$510.60	
Columbia	\$5.00	
Flat, River, First (In Memory of James Miller)	\$50.00	
Lebanon, First	\$75.00	
Total	\$640.60	

YOUTH CAMP

Mtn. Grove, First	\$15.00	
Dining Hall	\$5.00	
General Fund	10.00	
Mt. Pisgah	\$10.00	
Olivet	\$10.00	
Faith, Lemay	\$10.00	
Fellowship, Flat River	\$60.00	
Dining Hall		
Lebanon, First	\$33.33	
Dining Hall		
Berkeley	\$131.68	
Dining Hall		
Aulsbury Chapel	\$10.00	
Thayer	\$10.00	
Willow Springs	\$20.00	
Hartville	\$10.00	
Total	\$320.01	

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS September 1980

Number One	\$40.85	
Wayside	101.00	
Gray Summit	82.02	
Fordland	255.11	

Eastern Gate	48.87	Twin Oak	400.00
New Rock Springs	80.82	Myrtle	148.51
Myrtle	151.97	Union Light	106.50
Royal Oak	44.00	Mt. Zion, Thayer	28.93
Bismark	41.00	Farmington	950.00
Victory, Alton	110.00	Berkeley	358.99
DeSoto	600.00	Waynesville	177.47
Bailey Chapel	45.00	Black Oak	10.00
Mt. Zion, Thayer	41.62	Willow Springs	249.38
First, Springfield	72.00	Eastern Gate	24.68
South Side	238.80	Old Bethel	20.00
Parkview	186.60	Harmony, K.C.	186.00
Hartville	176.76	Community	33.90
Community	65.87	Houston	123.30
Kingsway	50.00	Total	\$17,030.33
Oskaloosa	19.80		
Neosho	10.00		
Terrill Road, Moberly	131.59		
Fredericktown, First	250.00		
New Home	49.10		
Mt. Zion, Gower	89.54		
Olivet	200.00		
Faith, Fair Grove	129.03		
Houston	144.16		
Belton	163.00		
Hopewell	252.00		
Cedar Ridge	71.50		
Independent FWB	205.90		
Union Grove	102.31		
Faith, Lemay	225.00		
Waynesville	114.26		
Pleasant Ridge	54.00		
Grant Avenue	640.76		
Monett	466.49		
Jones Family	168.00		
Lebanon, First	387.57		
Gospel Light	34.00		
Harmony, K.C.	278.00		
Freeman Chapel (July & August)	202.27		
Walnut Grove	114.00		
Mill Creek	142.28		
Oak Hill, Fredericktown	139.63		
Sedalia	153.38		
Mt. Pisgah	95.00		
Columbia	50.00		
Cope	27.28		
Happy Home	76.23		
Macedonia, Liberty Assn's	15.00		
Flat River, First	491.14		
New Harmony SS	8.61		
Mine La Motte	24.64		
Byrd	23.76		
Mtn. Grove, First	737.19		
Jones Family	82.00		
Cape Girardeau	100.00		
Hannon	208.00		
Calvary, Conway	104.00		
Rock Chapel	340.89		
Leadington	329.54		
Joplin	345.80		
Merl's Chapel	68.00		
Pleasant Hill	42.53		
Oak Hill, Union	447.64		
Copper Mines	150.11		
Cabool	126.36		
Marshfield	156.62		
Buffalo	141.70		
Wolf Creek	225.46		
Cuba	246.11		
O'Fallon	140.00		
Verdella	147.23		
Fourth	319.00		
Union	60.00		
Thayer	215.50		
Viburnum	15.00		
South Fremont	50.00		
El Dorado, First	5.00		
O'Fallon	399.00		
Grace	772.00		
Cope	29.47		
Bailey Chapel	36.00		

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS September 1980

18.50% MO State Home Missions	\$3,150.62
16.00% Promotional Department	2,724.85
4.50% General Fund	766.36
5.50% Youth Camp	936.67
2.00% Christian Board of Education	340.60
2.00% Sunday School & CTS	340.60
5.00% Retirement Program	851.52
5.00% Retirement Center	851.52
2.00% Possible Purchase of Ret. Unit	340.60
Total State Disbursements	\$10,303.34
6.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	\$1,021.83
33.50% National Departments	\$5,705.16
21.50% Foreign Missions	1,226.60
21.50% Free Will Baptist Bible College	1,226.60
15.50% National Home Missions	884.30
30.00% Executive Department	1,711.55
8.00% Board of Ret. & Ins.	456.41
3.00% Layman's Board	171.15
.50% Theological Commission	28.55
Total Disbursements	\$17,030.33

The Lord blessed with a fine month in September. This also reflects the closing of last month on a holiday. We are a little behind on the projected budget for this associational year. We trust that through the faithfulness of churches and pastors, we will meet our projected goal by March 31, 1981. May the Lord bless and use this giving to bring glory to Himself.

MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING September 1980

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

New Rock Springs	\$79.00
H. Bowers	\$29.00
M. Vandivort	50.00
Myrtle	\$141.78
H. Bowers	\$141.78
Joplin	\$573.70
J. Smith—Weatherford Mission	
Fredericktown	\$100.00
General Fund	\$100.00
Olivet	\$15.00
V. Maness	\$15.00
Grant Avenue	\$22.00
M. Vandivort	\$10.00
H. Bowers	10.00
D. Cochrane	2.00
Monett	\$10.00
H. Bowers	\$10.00
Lebanon, First	\$8.25
New England Account	\$8.25
Fredericktown, First	\$28.00
H. Bowers	\$28.00
Mt. Pisgah	\$50.00
M. Vandivort	\$25.00
H. Bowers	25.00
Fordland	\$5.00
M. Vandivort	\$5.00

Flat River, First	\$220.00
General Fund	\$200.00
J. O'Dell	20.00
Leadington	\$616.55
H. Bowers	\$10.00
M. Vandivort	606.55
Wolf Creek	\$20.00
H. Bowers	\$5.00
M. Vandivort	15.00
Jones Family	\$75.00
M. Vandivort	\$75.00
Rock Chapel	\$25.00
H. Bowers	\$15.00
J. O'Dell	10.00
Beacon	\$25.00
General fund	\$25.00
Mtn. Grove, First	\$76.00
M. Vandivort	\$33.00
H. Bowers	43.00
Thayer	\$86.40
H. Bowers	\$66.40
M. Vandivort	5.00
Messer	15.00
Berkeley	\$60.00
General Fund	\$50.00
H. Bowers	10.00
Total	\$2,236.68

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Fordland	\$15.43
M. Willey	\$15.43
Myrtle	\$94.15
McLain	\$54.15
Lynn Miley	40.00
Joplin	\$16.00
Sparks	\$6.00
Spain Land	10.00
Springfield, First	\$500.00
Archie Mayhew	\$500.00
South Side	\$115.00
C. Tallent	\$95.00
H. Filkins	20.00
Fredericktown, First	\$100.00
General Fund	\$100.00
Olivet	\$80.00
P. Van Hook	\$20.00
L. Inscoe	20.00
L. Sparks	20.00
B. Poole	20.00
Pleasant Ridge	\$20.00
General Fund	\$10.00
J. McLain	10.00
Grant Avenue	\$198.33
J. Pinkerton	\$55.00
F. Hersey	110.00
S. Lytle	33.33
Lebanon, First	\$26.00
C. Tallent	\$1.00
J. Pinkerton	12.50
C. Morgan	12.50
Walnut Grove	\$10.00
Lynn Miley	\$10.00
Sedalia	\$16.21
L. Inscoe	\$16.21
Columbia	\$5.00
General Fund	\$5.00
Flat River, First	\$200.00
General Fund	\$200.00
New Harmony	\$57.06
Lynn Miley	\$28.53
J. McLain	28.53
Mtn. Grove, First	\$200.00
General Fund	\$100.00
M. Cousineau	50.00
A. Crowson	50.00
Hannon	\$104.00
H. Filkins	\$25.00
J. Pinkerton	25.00
S. Lytle	29.00

C. Hanna	25.00
Rock Chapel	\$5.00
J. McLain	\$5.00
Beacon	\$107.66
General Fund	\$107.66
Merl's Chapel	\$50.00
A Crowson	\$50.00
Thayer	\$5.00
J. Pinkerton	\$5.00
Buffalo	\$178.25
P. Van Hook	\$168.25
J. Banks	10.00
Aulsbury Chapel	\$50.00
J. Pinkerton	\$25.00
H. Filkins	25.00
Black Oak	\$19.25
E. Payne	\$19.25
Leadington	\$9.00
H. Filkins	\$9.00
Total	\$2,181.34

YOUTH CAMP

New Rock Springs	\$10.00
Myrtle	\$45.50
Dining Hall	\$24.00
General Fund	21.50
Hartville	\$10.00
Olivet	\$10.00
Faith, Lemay	\$10.00
Mt. Pisgah	\$10.00
Lebanon, First	\$12.50
Dining Hall	
Jim & Loretta McIntosh	\$10.00
(In Memory of D. Lombard)	
Thayer	\$10.00
Aulsbury Chapel	\$10.00
Willow Springs	\$10.00
Fellowship, Flat River	\$60.00
Total	\$208.00

BOB CARR'S ACCOUNT

Monett	\$10.00
Merl's Chapel	\$52.00
Total	\$62.00

RUSSELL B. SPURGEON MEMORIAL FUND

Myrtle	\$105.00
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GREENEVILLE CHILDREN'S HOME

Myrtle	\$7.32
Fredericktown, First	\$25.00
Total	\$32.32

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Jopin	\$54.00
Library Wing	\$50.00
General Fund	4.00
Fredericktown, First	\$75.00
Grant Avenue	\$58.33
Development Fund	\$25.00
General Fund	\$33.33
Columbia	\$5.00
Flat River, First	\$100.00
In Memory of James Miller	
Total	\$292.33

HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE

Grant Avenue	\$10.00
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Monett.....	\$13.24
Mtn. Grove, First.....	\$65.00
Willow Springs.....	\$15.00
Fredericktown, First.....	\$75.00
Total	\$178.24

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS September 1980

Eastern Gate	\$36.00
Branson Carpet Fund	\$36.00
Myrtle	\$75.50
General Fund.....	\$45.50
Branson	30.00
Terrill Road.....	\$22.83
Branson	\$5.00
General Fund.....	17.83
Pleasant Ridge	\$10.00
General Fund.....	\$10.00
Monett.....	\$15.00
General Fund.....	\$15.00
Lebanon, First	\$32.00
Branson	\$2.00
Lombard & Thompson Memorial Fund.....	30.00
Fredericktown, First	\$13.00
Branson	\$13.00
Columbia	\$5.00
General Fund.....	\$5.00
Flat River, First	\$200.00
General Fund.....	\$200.00
New Harmony	\$28.52
Moberly	\$28.52
Leadington.....	\$10.00
Branson	\$10.00
Bud Jackson, Rolla	\$10.00
General Fund.....	\$10.00
Beacon.....	\$55.00
General Fund.....	\$55.00
Aulsbury Chapel	\$10.00
Branson	\$10.00
Berkeley	\$60.00
General Fund.....	\$50.00
Branson	10.00
Grant Avenue	\$34.16
Branson	\$34.16
South Fremont.....	\$236.00
Branson	\$61.00
General Fund.....	175.00
Total	\$853.01

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSION GIVING August 1980

Parkview	\$ 2.00
Houston.....	37.60
O'Fallon	5.00
Fellowship	32.00
Hurryville	25.65
Oak Hill—Union	237.13
Farmington.....	40.00
Fourth.....	81.91
Fredericktown, First	12.00
Grant Avenue	71.83
Pleasant Ridge	20.00
Lebanon, First	2.00
New Hope—Fredericktown	30.00
Columbia	5.00
Terrill Road.....	14.00
Beacon.....	82.00
Central	33.77
Aulsbury Chapel	10.00
Flat River, First	100.00
Berkeley	60.00
South Side	10.00
Leadington.....	10.00
New Harmony	28.80
Monett.....	5.00
Low Ground.....	5.00
Myrtle	22.10

William Tryan	200.00
Joplin.....	10.00
Cooperative Receipts	3,064.93
Olivet.....	100.00
Sedalia	68.60
Mill Creek Young Adult Class.....	15.00
Neosho.....	5.00
Rock Chapel	125.45
Grace	25.00
Sue Matthews.....	30.00
Kay Matthews.....	30.00
DeSoto.....	100.00
Total	4,756.77

Secretary-Treasurer
Rev. Lawrence Thompson
555 Columbia
St. Clair, Mo. 63077

MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSION GIVING September 1980

Cuba	\$34.85
Parkview	2.00
Fellowship	20.00
Hurryville	15.40
Fordland	31.00
Mtn. Grove.....	2.50
Fredericktown, First	12.00
Terrill Road.....	8.50
Columbia	5.00
Hazel Creek	20.00
Eastern Gate	70.20
Lebanon, First	2.00
Eva Brown.....	10.00
Flat River, First	100.00
New Harmony	22.78
Berkeley	60.00
Aulsbury Chapel	10.00
Beacon.....	35.00
Low Ground.....	5.00
Cooperative Receipts	2,396.76
Mill Creek Y.A. Class.....	15.00
Neosho.....	5.00
Houston.....	51.55
Rock Chapel	25.18
Grace	25.00
L. L. Ray.....	25.00
Sedalia	102.25
Olivet.....	200.00
DeSoto.....	50.00
O'Fallon	45.20
Farmington.....	30.00

In memory of Rev. Lawrence D. Thompson

Salem	100.00
Wm. Chilton	20.00
Clarence Burton	10.00
Missouri State Association	25.00
Joseph M. House	50.00
Oak Hill—Union	215.10
Grace	20.00
Total	\$3,877.27

Beginning a Children's Church

by Greg McAllister

Last time we talked about why we need a Children's Church. We also had a few pointers about how to conduct a program. This time we have some things to say about actually doing it.

1. Where will we have it? An assembly room is best. Don't get into a huge room, though. If you have sliding partitions, make the room big enough to enclose about 10 kids comfortably. Being in a huge room with few people discourages people. Being crowded encourages BIGGER crowds. Filling up a room makes the kids proud of their church. If at all possible, don't use an adult classroom. They talk too long, and the kids stand around in the hall making noise until the teacher gets through. Get your own chalkboard and your own easel, so you can prepare before class; and the teacher that uses the room won't erase what you've written. Get as far away from the sanctuary as possible. Kids like songs that you get to shout in, and being too close to the sanctuary will bring you complaints from the adults in a hurry. Try to avoid having chairs that the boys can lean back in. Benches are good, but this isn't a necessity.

2. What will we use? Buy poster board and magic markers, and make as many of your own things as possible. If you can't do lettering, hire a High School kid to do it for you. (While he's (or she's) working, you might even lead him to the Lord.) Be careful of

copyrights on songs. David C. Cook Publishing Company has complete programs for 13 weeks, as does Randall House Publications. Standard Publishing Company of Cincinnati has many excellent flannel-graph series. Baker Book House of Grand Rapids has an incredible number of Object Lesson booklets on many themes: sports, household, objects, animals, etc. All of these are available at our Bookstore in Lebanon. Child Evangelism Fellowship has many visual songs available and also a series of songbooks entitled, "Salvation Songs for Children." Moody Monthly is a good source of material for Children's Church. They always have lots of human interest stories and a monthly column for kids, "Gil Beer's Muffin Family."

I would like to interject this advice: After you get these kinds of materials, guard them with your life. You can't afford to loan them to anybody because you usually won't get them back in good shape. This is GOD'S property. Guard as such.

3. What do we absolutely need? (1) Some sort of instrument: piano, organ, guitar, accordion, etc. Somebody in your church has a musical talent he isn't showing. Use a cassette player if you have to. Some companies offer entire medleys on cassette. (2) Some sort of pulpit. Get the kids used to the idea of FORMAL SPEAKING. We can give our kids respect for the preacher now that will still be there when the kids have kids. (3) Visual songs—simple, loud, fast, with easy-to-read words, that even the kids who CAN'T read can memorize. (4) Chalkboard or flannel-graph. Don't spend a lot of money. You can find old chalkboards in second-hand shops, and you can make a flannelgraph board with a small piece of paneling and a yard of cheap flannel from a department store. (5) Patience. Not all the kids are going to appreciate your effort, and not all of the parents will. Some of them "don't believe in that sort of stuff." Find out what God's will is, and do THAT.

Points for Pastors

by Jim McAllister



A pastor who has a vision of building a great church needs to sit down and count the cost. The cost may be more than he wants to pay. Long hours, lots of pressures, hard work, time away from family, and times of great loneliness.

If the pastor is just moving to a new field, or has been in a field for a period of time, and now senses an unrest and desire to really do a great work for God, he should do the following things:

First, read some good books on church growth and methods. I suggest "Sharpening The Focus Of The Church" by Getz; "Why Churches Die" by Hollis Green; "Your Church Has Real Possibilities" by Schuller; "Success Motivation and The Scripture" by Cook; "Planting and Growing a New Testament Church" by Thomas. These and other books by Hyles, Rice, and Towns will help. Now jot down lists of things you learn from each of these books. When finished you should have a list of at least 25 steps you need to take to build a great church.

Second, attend some pastor's schools. Take good

notes. These will not only help with methods but will also motivate you to want to build a great church.

Third, talk to successful pastors and visit some large churches. Find out what they are doing. Look over their plant and their program. Measure your desire by theirs.

Fourth, walk through your church plant and get a clear picture of every detail of your church facilities.

Now, you should know what kind of church you want to build; methods to use; what to do; what your plant capabilities are; and what you will need in building, facilities, and tools to get it done. Now, either from past experience in this place, or through patient waiting and watching, determine how you can accomplish these things in your place of service. Please be smart enough to determine what can and cannot be used. Don't tear up your church by trying to make it into another Thomas Road or First Baptist of Hammond.

Move cautiously, intelligently, in a sane and sensible fashion toward building the kind of church God wants in your town. It can be done.

You may need to wait awhile and train as well as teach your people. Don't get impatient. Rome wasn't built in a day, and the condition of your church wasn't made in a day.

Christmas Reflections

by Rev. John Turner

What Christmas stands most vivid in your memory? Would it be the time that as a child you excitedly tore off the wrapping paper and mentally checked your list of Christmas wants? Perhaps the best of Christmas was the year you received that long awaited present, the one you had wished for, longed for, and perhaps even coveted for many months.

I recall the one item that as a youngster I desired above all else—a bicycle. It seemed that all the world had wheels but me. I wished, hoped, prayed, and even tried to have “enough” faith. Still Christmas after Christmas, there was no bicycle. As Christmas dragged closer the next year, I had decided that a bicycle was just not meant for me. But somehow that year, Mom and Dad were able to afford a new bicycle for both my brother and me. What a surprise to find two bright-red and chrome bicycles under the house that Christmas morning! I remember that Christmas well, but still, that was not the Christmas that stands out most in my memory.

Christmas is not Christmas because the wish comes true. Christmas is not just families together, even though this is important. Christmas is Christmas when we learn God’s heart concerning this season. “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). This season of celebration is ours because God chose to give, and give, and keep on giving. To know what Christmas has at its center, we must manifest this same spirit of giving.

The most memorable and blessed Christmases of all will be those when in Christ-like measure we learn to give, and keep on giving. We often feel cheated during this holiday season when we don’t receive that wished for item; could this hollowness be caused from the fact that our emphasis is on the wrong side of giving and receiving?

The Christmases I remember best are not those filled with gifts, but those in which I gave of myself. I’ll never forget the joy of helping distribute baskets of food; the joy of seeing the thankfulness of tears from a mother’s face as she told me that without the baskets, her family would not have had a Christmas. The sparkle of the eye and thrill of expression on the faces of little ones as a stranger handed them a repaired toy, will never be erased from my heart or memory.

The Christmas our family remembers most was the year a young lad, a friend to our sons, spent Christmas week with us. Shortly before Christmas, the only mother he had ever known, his grandmother, passed away. Christmas and alone, how tragic! God turned disaster into blessing! Our children responded by asking if he could spend Christmas with us. Then in chain like response, the Ladies Auxiliary and our congregation began to give for him. Our families were called and they too responded with warm hearts to give to one less fortunate. We all learned a valuable lesson: Christmas is not found in gifts, it’s found in giving!

Do you want to make Christmas 1980 special for your church and family? Find someone to extend the love of Christ to. Find someone who hurts and ease the pain. We don’t need money and gifts to have a blessed season; what we do need is simply Christ in us and through us. One of the beautiful carols we sing says, “Joy to the world, the Lord is come,”—How will the world know that Jesus is come unless He works through us?



About the writer: Reverend John Turner is the pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Fredericktown, Missouri. He is the general board member representing the Southeast Missouri District Association. He is also actively involved in the Missouri State and National Association ministries.

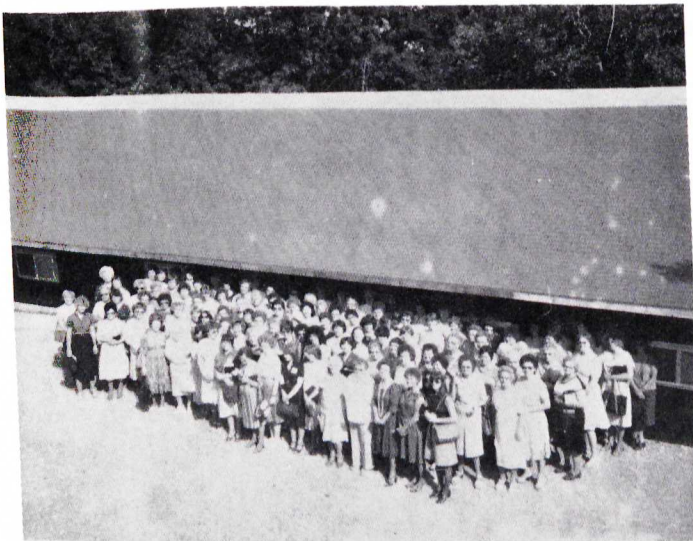


Shirley Bowden, editor

REFLECTIONS OF RETREAT

September 12 and 13 found Missouri women at the Youth Camp for the yearly retreat. This year one hundred and thirty-five women attended the retreat. Mrs. Lorene Miley was the retreat speaker, using the theme "But Yield Yourselves." The women were challenged to yield all of their being to the Lord, not just the areas we would like to yield. The sessions were taped and are available by contacting Helen McAllister, 315 W. Columbia, Farmington, Missouri 63640. The tapes will sell for \$3.00.

One of the joys of retreat is to get acquainted with women from across the state and to renew old friendships made from past retreats. The past several years Mrs. Ellen Middleton of Mountain Grove, MO, has attended the retreat and usually shares with the women a poem or skit that she has written. This year she wrote the following poem that should be printed for all to enjoy.



KEEPING OUR SHOULDER TO GOD'S WHEEL

By grace we have lived our allotted days
of three score years and ten,
And sometimes we like to look back
and take stock of where we've been.
Now I doubt that one of us could say
that our life has been all joy,
For we each have had our sorrows
and troubles that tend to annoy.
But Christ has been our guide and stay
He has blessed us o'er and o'er,
And when we became discouraged
He sustained us even more.
And when we were tired and weary
so often we would feel,
That we were the very tiniest spoke
in God's great big wheel.
Sometimes we long to take a trip
back to our childhood home
To view the woods, the hills, and valleys
where we as children loved to roam.
But it seems the only available time
would include the Sabbath day,
So we tuck our dreams away again
for we just can't get away.
It's then old Satan comes along
and tempts us very sore
Saying face it, sister, you're growing old;
they don't need you anymore.
Well don't handle us with kid gloves
and don't put us on the shelf,
But try to imagine how you would feel
if this were happening to yourself?
Our sight and hearing may have failed somewhat
yet, we have no trouble at all
Of hearing the still voice of God
since, we're listening for His call.
We seek for the path wherein He leads;
we feel the touch of His hand
As He gently leads us o'er the shoals
of an ever increasing troubled land.
But soon we will take our coveted trip
to view the most beautiful place,
All sparkling bright with diamonds and gold
and filled with God's glory and grace.
But until we take this wonderful trip
no matter how others may feel,
You'll find us in the vineyard beside you
with our shoulders to God's great wheel.

We were very thankful this year to have in attendance fifteen ladies over the age of seventy.

THE OFFICERS OF THE MISSOURI STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION WANT TO WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES A HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

THE GEM
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Lebanon, Missouri 65536

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**DON'T FORGET
YOUR HOME MISSIONS
GIVING THIS MONTH!**

**Have a Blessed
Holiday Season and
a Happy New Year**

From Clarence and Vivian

