

Vol. 52, No. 4, July-August, 1982

Free Will Baptist

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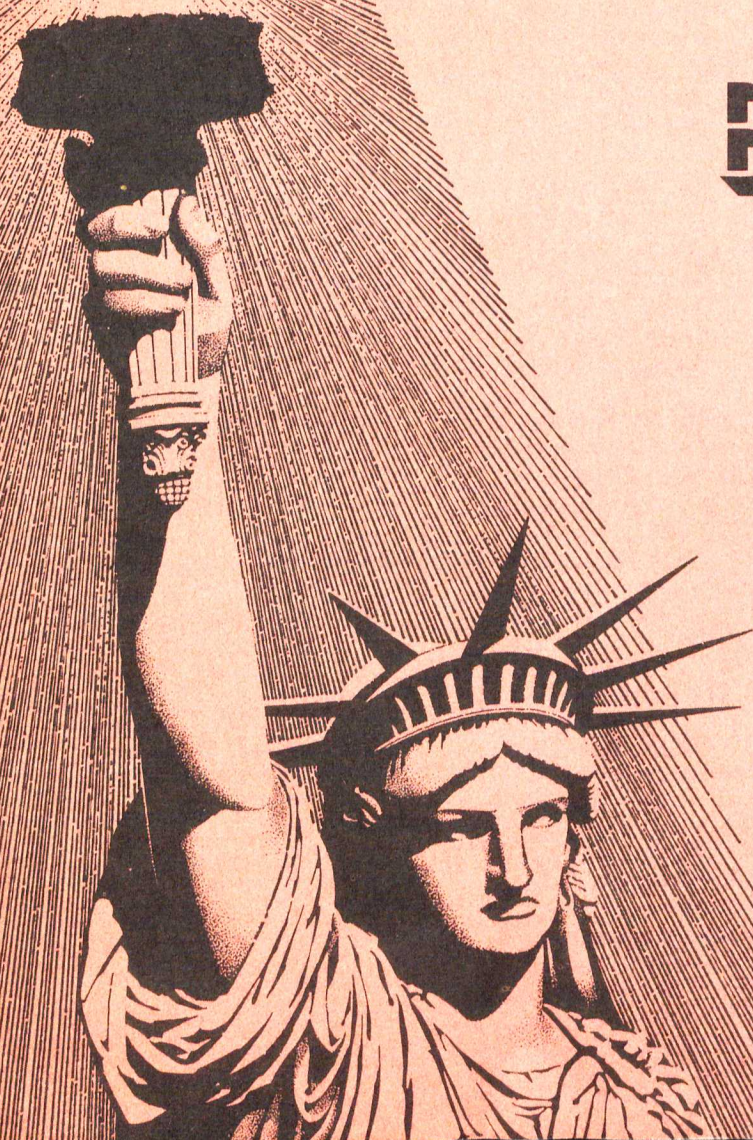
GEM

"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"

GOD

BLESS

AMERICA!



SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AVERAGES 1981-82

CHURCHES	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY
Aulsbury Chapel	125	130										
Bethel, Festus	75	78	81	83	91	96	103	80	92	98	121	105
Buffalo	81	84	79	89	73							
Calvary, Conway	81	84	79	89	73							
Calvary, Fenton	157	120	143	142	233	179	172	141	149	232		
Central	65	66	75	76	82	80	86	84	97	109		
Copper Mines	75	74	87	77	80	78						
Cuba	61	54	61	56	68	64	66	52	70	69	62	
De Soto				190	160	158	154	136	158	158		
Farmington	601	601	634	684	852	720	689	608	671	744	765	670
Flat River, First	146	154	181	199	221	211	196	136	187			
Fourth	141	107	130	126	110	110	118	80	102	105	92	90
Fredericktown	133	143	134	133	170	146	143	121	140	159	191	204
Grace	158	150	179	176	259	182	212					
Grant Avenue	129	132	131	150	179	166	157	146	149	168		
Hannon	91	85	80	83	81	82	84	78	98	102	101	
Harmony, K.C.	57	40	60	54	58	54	63	60	74	108	94	75
Hartville	94	94	88	82	80	85	89	72				
Houston	62	66	65	63	62	61	59	51	57			
Marshfield	51	49	56	62	80	73	65	49	66	71	61	65
Myrtle	58	54	53	55	56	48	50	44	50	50	59	58
O'Fallon	87	80	86	82	80	70	74	72	51	54	51	50
Parkview	62	64	55	57	59	58	57	50	59			
Richwoods	21	21	25	33	37	40	35	26	26			
Thayer	162	157	163	154	161	154	162	134	149			
Twin Oak	78	80	84	75	70	73	78					
United, W.P.	65	69	68	64	62		72	59	69	75		
Willow Springs	103	93	101	101	94	104	107	77	90	91		

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

Publication and Business Office: 303 West Commercial, Lebanon, Missouri 65536

Clarence Burton, editor

Address all correspondence relating to the GEM, including subscription and mailing information to the above address.

Woman's Auxiliary news may be mailed to Shirley Bowden, 303 West Commercial, Lebanon, MO 65536.

The sermons and articles published in the GEM represent the personal views of the authors and not necessarily the views and policies of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists or of the editor.

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Churches People And Events

Church Mortgage Disappears at Cabool



Reverend Lester Davis, pastor of the Cabool Free Will Baptist Church gives this information. When the church treasurer went to the bank to make a payment on the mortgage she was told that the account had been paid in full. This made the congregation of the church very grateful but a little curious as to who was the anonymous benefactor.

On January 10, 1975 the church had taken out a fifteen-year \$44,000.00 loan to construct the present two-story brick church building at the corner of Summit and Hickory. Several members of the congregation had signed personal notes to secure the loan. When Brother Davis assumed the pastorate in 1978 the loan had been paid down to approximately \$35,000.00.

As the regular monthly payments were being made it was discovered that extra payments were being made by some unknown person, sometimes as much as \$3,000 at one time. The balance of the loan in mid-March stood at approximately \$14,000.00. When Mrs. Pauline White, the church treasurer went to the bank to make a regular payment she received the surprising news that the entire amount had been paid by an anonymous donor. When the announcement was made to the congregation the following Sunday, the people were "quite shocked" stated Brother Davis. The church decided to hold a Mortgage Burning Service, an event that some of the church members felt would not come in their lifetime.

The pastor stated, "I would like to express thanks to the people for what they have done." This summed up the feelings of the congregation.

Four Missouri Students Receive Degrees at Hillsdale

The Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College announced that fourteen young men and women received Bachelor of Arts in Theology degrees. Eighteen students received Associates of Arts degrees.

Douglas Roy Hoover from Liberal, Missouri and Michael Thomas Walker from Mountain Grove, Missouri received the Bachelor of Arts. Mark Arthur Brawley from Lebanon, Missouri and John Kevin Davis from St. Clair, Missouri received their Associate of Arts. The Commencement Exercise was held May 7, 1982.

Four Missouri Winners in Sunday School Enlargement Campaign

In the Sunday School Enlargement Campaign entitled "Soldiers of the Cross" four Sunday schools in Missouri were winners. The First Free Will Baptist Sunday School in Farmington, Missouri won first place in Division A. The campaign average was 688. The Grace Free Will Baptist Sunday School in Arnold, Missouri won second place in Division D. The campaign average was 267. The Harmony Free Will Baptist Sunday School in Parkville, Missouri (North Kansas City County) won second place in Division G. The campaign average was 108. The Gospel Light Free Will Baptist Sunday School in Bonne Terre, Missouri won second place in Division H. The campaign average was 52. This is great!

Editor's note: Congratulations to each pastor and Sunday school superintendent. Let's do it again.

Four Missouri Students Receive Degrees at Free Will Baptist Bible College

Free Will Baptist Bible College conferred degrees and diplomas upon 75 graduates at commencement exercises held May 13 in the institution's activities building. Twenty-nine graduates received the Bachelor of Arts Degree, twenty-five the Bachelor of Science Degree, fourteen the Christian Worker's Bible Diploma, and seven the Associate of Science in Business Degree.

Two students from Missouri received the Bachelor of Arts Degree: Kenneth Wayne Dodson of Farmington, Missouri and Daniel Gaylan Felts of Springfield, Missouri. Two other students from Missouri received the Bachelor of Science Degree: Jeffrey Scott Halliburton of Mountain Grove, Missouri and Joanna Faith Sasser of St. Louis, Missouri. Miss Sasser was graduated with magna cum laude honors and Mr. Felts was graduated with cum laude honors.

Awards Banquet and Graduation at Olivet



The Olivet Christian Academy held its Commencement Exercise and Awards Banquet on Thursday, May 20, 1982, at the Olivet Free Will Baptist Church in Marshall, Missouri.

It was a historic event in that OCA graduated its first graduate from the 12th grade. He was Hershel Wendell Hayes.

The principal of the academy, Reverend Steve Hale, presented awards to several students and also to members of the faculty.

Reverend Clarence Burton, promotional secretary of the Missouri State Association, gave the commencement address to approximately three hundred people that were gathered for the occasion.

The pastor, Reverend Cliff Bowman, commended the students and faculty for a wonderful year. He presented a gift from the students to Reverend Steve Hale and recognized the faithful service Brother Hale had rendered to the school and the church. The Home Mission Board and the Moberly Mission called Brother Hale to serve as pastor of the new work in Moberly, Missouri.

The ladies of the church and academy provided a beautiful banquet preceding the commencement exercises.

50th Anniversary at Monett

Mrs. Miriam Whitaker, publicity chairman for the anniversary activities writes, The First Free Will Baptist Church of Monett, Missouri observed and celebrated its 50th Anniversary on Sunday, April 18, 1982. The day began with 194 in Sunday school attendance and 241 attending the morning worship. During the noon hour a bountiful turkey and ham dinner was served to approximately 200 persons.



During the afternoon service there was congregational singing, choir specials, a solo by Sherry Gray, and singing by a quartet composed of Joe and Donny Davis, Joyce Phillips, and Lewis Greenway. Mayor Harrell of Monett spoke concerning the accomplishments of a sincere and determined group of persons. He recalled that the church began in 1932 in a small building in the downtown area. As the church grew, property was purchased and a sanctuary was constructed in 1955 on Central and Sycamore. In 1960 a parsonage was built near the church.

After much growth a new and larger sanctuary was built, joining the present building, in 1972.



Only three charter members were able to attend the Anniversary Service. They were Fannie Weston and Marie Atwell, present members, and Margurite Metcalf Swaffer who lives in Independence, Missouri. The charter members gave brief testimonies. Three former pastors brought congratulations and gave brief messages. They were Reverends W. K. Weston, Bob Francis, and Tommy Day.

The church foyer walls were lined with pictures of the past and the many events that occurred during the fifty year history of the church. The tables in the Fellowship Hall and the interior of the sanctuary were adorned with gold mums.

The main theme of the day and the thoughts of those who spoke brought honor and glory to God. It is only because of His love and guidance this church has grown and prospered in the work of the Lord.

Reverend Stanley Jones is serving as pastor of the church.



Record Attendance Set at Fredericktown Church



The First Free Will Baptist Church at Fredericktown, Missouri continues to enjoy the blessings of the Lord, writes Pastor John Turner. In a recent revival with evangelist Don Pegram the church saw six first time decisions, ten re-dedications, and twelve uniting with the church. Record attendance was set on May 16, with 263 in Sunday school.

Proceeding the revival services, the evangelism teams of the church, consisting of fifteen soul-winners had led fourteen people to Christ in seven weeks. "We go forth praying and expecting God to save someone, and come back rejoicing!", states Pastor Turner.

Report from the Overland Church

Miriam Wilhite, church reporter writes, the dawning of the New Year seemed to whisper of good things to come as two wonderful couples followed the Lord in the ordinance of water baptism. The optimism was high as we began to see new people attend our services. Little did we suspect that God was preparing a special homecoming to glory for two of our most precious members: Sister Margaret Konnersman and Brother Lee Evans. One died while having open heart surgery and the other suffered a massive heart attack. We miss them, but we do not question the wisdom of our Heavenly Father.

The pastor, Reverend Asher, has taught a Teacher Training Course with thirteen persons receiving credit for perfect attendance. The course was a special blessing to the church and hopefully will produce much fruit for the church. Within the last two months a young man, a father, has been saved and two young men in their twenties accepted Christ as Savior.

Plans for the summer include a Vacation Bible School in June and a Teacher Training Course in August led by Reverend Harrold Harrison from the Sunday School and Church Training Department.

Historical Conference at Mt. Zion



Seven district associations were represented at the Historical Conference held at the Mt. Zion Church in Gower, Missouri. The message Friday evening was preached by Reverend Cliff Bowman and the message Saturday morning was preached by Reverend James Barker. (Reverend Cecil Campbell was unable to be there because of a death in the family.) The messages were informative, interesting, and challenging. It was interesting to hear the testimonies from the district association representatives and to hear the history given by a member of the Mt. Zion Church. During the meeting and after the dismissal it was good to hear people remark, "I am glad that I am a Free Will Baptist" and "I am glad that I am a part of the Missouri State Association."

Photos Youth Service, W.A. and MO State Assn.

1. The Harvesters
2. Talking over the Youth Service
3. The food was delicious
4. The W.A. Choir
5. My heart doth sing
6. Presiding
7. The Banquet Speaker
8. Just before the Youth Service Message
9. The Youth Service Speaker
10. Ready for the opening service
11. Morning Devotional
12. Close Harmony
13. The Wednesday Morning Preacher
14. Wednesday afternoon devotional
15. Musicians
16. Discussing the meeting
17. A Song In My Heart
18. The Wednesday evening Preacher
19. A Full Church Wednesday evening
20. A Family sings
21. Just relaxing
22. Beautiful harmony
23. Folks from Grace
24. We enjoy the State Association
25. A Word From France

Additional photos in next Gem issue.



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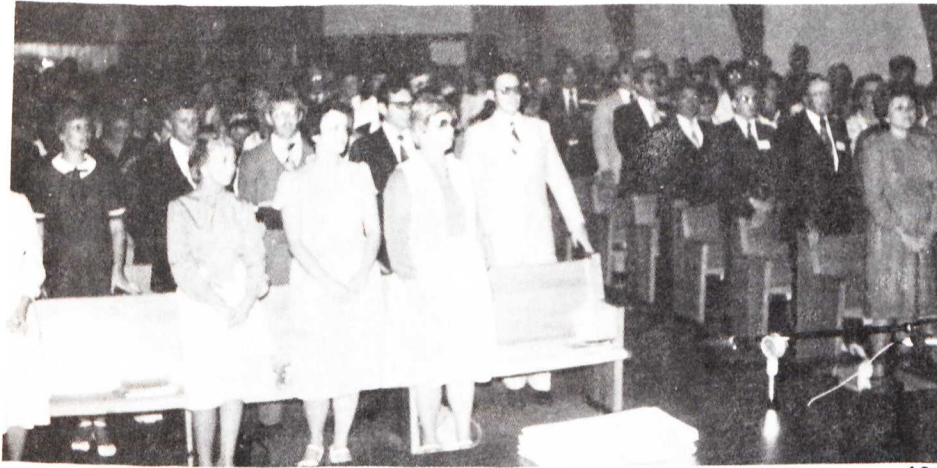
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MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING

April & May 1982

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Columbia	\$75.00
Inscoc	\$10.00
McLain	50.00
McCullough	5.00
Filkins	10.00
Berkeley	\$268.00
Deficit Accts.	\$ 98.00
Filkins	120.00
Lytle	20.00
Tallent	30.00
Grant Avenue	\$357.00
Hersey	\$160.00
Pinkerton	100.00
Haas	95.00
General Fund	2.00
Monett	\$115.00
General Fund	\$45.00
Tallent	50.00
Sparks	20.00
Kirksville, First	\$28.00
Pinkerton	\$28.00
O'Fallon	\$36.73
Tallent	\$10.00
Call-a-thon	26.73
South Side	\$550.00
Tallent	\$540.00
Filkins	10.00
Olivet	\$100.00
Poole	\$25.00
Inscoc	30.00
Sparks	20.00
McLain	10.00
Pinkerton	10.00
Van Hook	5.00
Lebanon, First	\$10.00
Tallent	\$10.00
Pleasant Ridge	\$40.00
McLain	\$20.00
General Fund	20.00
Indian Creek Association	\$1,355.96
Haas	\$ 5.00
Morgan	1,035.81
Cousineau	15.00
Banks	20.00
Filkins	46.15
Tallent	234.00
Hickory Grove	\$52.78
Lytle	\$52.78
United, West Plains	\$111.50
Tallent	\$111.50
Flat River, First	\$100.00
General Fund	\$100.00
Lingo, Doniphan	\$120.00
Tallent	\$120.00
Leadington	\$635.00
Turnbough	\$340.00
Miley	40.00
Filkins	40.00
Eagleton	55.00
Lytle	40.00
Hanna	40.00
McLain	40.00
Pinkerton	40.00
Hannon	\$229.00
Pinkerton	\$50.00
Lytle	50.00
Filkins	50.00
Miley	50.00
Tallent	11.50
McLain	17.50

Central	\$552.79
Filkins	\$100.00
Miley	66.54
Haas	10.00
Turnbough	92.50
Doug Hoover	253.75
Houston	\$147.25
Tallent	\$147.25
Rock Chapel	\$85.00
Tallent	\$85.00
Trinity	\$268.78
Miley	\$ 13.00
McLain	40.00
Morgan	119.73
Filkins	15.00
General Fund	51.05
Payne	10.00
Wode	20.00
Rolla	\$20.00
Turnbough	\$20.00
Marshfield	\$75.00
Tallent	\$75.00
Black Oak	\$40.31
Hanna	\$17.25
Moser	23.06
Martinstown	\$131.00
McLain	\$20.00
Call-a-thon	51.00
Sparks	20.00
Richards	20.00
Miley	20.00
Thayer	\$229.50
Tallent	\$284.50
Pinkerton	10.00
Filkins	5.00
Neosho	\$58.50
Cousineau	\$10.00
Wode	10.00
Caton	38.50
Myrtle	\$69.00
Miley	\$49.00
Tallent	20.00
Fordland	\$35.00
Tallent	\$35.00
Aulsbury Chapel	\$120.00
Pinkerton	\$60.00
Filkins	60.00
Fourth	\$372.00
Lytle	\$357.00
Tallent	15.00
Beacon	\$275.00
Coscia	\$260.00
General Fund	15.00
New Harmony	\$103.42
Call-a-thon	\$55.52
Miley	23.95
McLain	23.95
Bethel	\$45.00
Tallent	\$20.00
General Fund	25.00
Faith, Lemay Woman's Auxiliary	\$52.00
Payne	\$52.00
Mtn. Grove, First	\$790.21
Call-a-thon	\$154.21
Tallent	556.00
Cousineau	10.00
General Fund	70.00
Total	\$7,693.73

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

April & May 1982

Berkeley	\$349.00
Deficit Accts.	\$100.00
Fulcher	215.00

Maness	11.00	
Colo. Spgs.	23.00	
Grant Avenue		\$4.00
Vandivort	\$2.00	
Mexico	2.00	
O'Fallon		\$127.00
Adkisson	\$30.00	
Fulcher	60.00	
General Fund	37.00	
Olivet		\$40.00
Maness	\$40.00	
Indian Creek Association		\$145.00
Weatherford	\$145.00	
Mt. Pisgah		\$155.00
Colo. Spgs.	\$50.00	
Vandivort	50.00	
Maness	55.00	
Bob & Glenda Keith		\$30.00
Vandivort	\$30.00	
Flat River, First		\$100.00
General Fund	\$100.00	
Leadington		\$195.00
Colo. Spgs.	\$40.00	
Maness	65.00	
Fulcher	40.00	
Vandivort	50.00	
Central		\$55.00
Maness	\$45.00	
Colo. Spgs.	10.00	
Rock Chapel		\$100.00
Maness	\$90.00	
O'Dell	10.00	
Rolla		\$100.00
Vandivort	\$100.00	
Marshfield		\$35.00
Maness	\$30.00	
O'Dell	5.00	
Wolf Creek		\$20.00
Vandivort	\$20.00	
Thayer		\$174.80
Maness	\$119.80	
Vandivort	5.00	
Highway Helpers	50.00	
Myrtle		\$87.00
Maness	\$52.00	
Colo. Spgs.	5.00	
General Fund	15.00	
Evangelism	15.00	
Fordland		\$35.00
Maness	\$35.00	
United, Independent FWB, Lemay		\$46.71
Maness	\$46.71	
New Rock Springs		\$60.00
Vandivort	\$60.00	
South Side		\$10.00
Fulcher	\$5.00	
Maness	5.00	
Lebanon, First		\$2.00
Maness	\$2.00	
Bethel		\$35.00
General Fund	\$25.00	
Maness	\$10.00	
Kingsway		\$130.00
O'Dell	\$130.00	
Mtn. Grove, First		\$118.00
J. D. Norris	\$25.00	
Colo. Spgs.	10.00	
Vandivort	30.00	
Maness	53.00	
Columbia		\$10.00
Vandivort	\$10.00	
Fredericktown, First		\$101.00
J. Barron	\$67.00	
Shockey	34.00	
Total		\$2,264.51

MO YOUTH CAMP April & May 1982

Monett	\$60.00
Olivet	40.00
Faith, Lemay	20.00
Hartville	20.00
Mt. Pisgah	20.00
Leadington	40.00
Hannon	30.00
Thayer	40.00
Myrtle	16.00
Aulsbury Chapel	20.00
Willow Springs	20.00
Bethel	25.00
New Rock Springs	16.00
Jr. SS Class	\$ 6.00
Church	10.00
Total	\$367.00

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Grant Avenue	\$30.00
Delivery Fund	\$30.00
Joplin	\$50.00
Library Fund	\$50.00
Flat River, First	\$50.00
In Memory J. Miller	\$50.00
Leadington	\$40.00
Total	\$170.00

HILLSDALE FREE WILL BAPTIST COLLEGE April & May 1982

Grant Avenue	\$207.43
General Fund	\$16.00
Harvesters	\$191.43
Nibett	31.56
O'Fallon	91.56
Joplin	30.00
Hannon	100.00
Willow Springs	40.00
Mtn. Grove	30.00
Total	\$530.25

BOB CARR ACCOUNT April & May 1982

Grant Avenue	\$30.00
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NATIONAL BOARD OF RETIREMENT & INSURANCE April & May 1982

Grant Avenue	\$2.00
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WORLD VISION April & May 1982

Sedalia	\$223.20
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CHILDREN'S HOME GREENEVILLE, TN April & May 1982

Myrtle	\$4.20
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COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS April 1982

Gray Summit	\$110.18
Old Bethel	32.78
Number One	29.82
Berkeley	385.03
Farmington	1,150.00
Grant Avenue	452.72
Monett	462.74
Mt. Zion, Gower	45.07
Faith, Fair Grove	153.34
Bailey Chapel	54.00
Royal Oak	43.00
O'Fallon	300.61
DeSoto	600.00
Freeman Chapel	107.58
Cuba	244.93
South Side	285.90
Flat River, First	555.78
United, West Plains	100.00
Columbia	50.00
Mt. Zion, Thayer	35.10
Mine La Motte	25.00
Macedonia	20.00
Olivet	250.00
Victory, Alton	139.00
Lebanon	341.92
Mill Creek	127.20
Hopewell	125.00
Faith, Lemay	200.00
Neosho	60.00
Kingsway	100.00
Grace	786.00
Fredericktown, First	360.00
Pleasant Ridge	48.00
Belton	275.02
Hurryville	54.42
New Hope, Fredericktown	90.00
Buffalo	182.06
Joplin	394.25
Merl's Chapel	56.23
Union Grove	128.00
Hickory Grove	42.67
Richwoods	163.70
Pleasant Home	378.93
Koshkonong	30.00
Hartville	182.65
Mt. Pisgah	87.00
Cabool	205.64
Flat River, First	484.38
Leadington	425.00
Hannon	223.00
Central	845.00
Houston	168.25
Aulsbury Chapel	751.30
Rock Chapel	194.30
Copper Mines	163.60
Trinity	688.27
Rolla	120.27
Salem	150.00
Wolf Creek	184.30
Pleasant Hill	38.79
Black Oak	10.00
El Dorado Springs, First	5.00
Thayer	266.98
Gospel Light	86.35
Myrtle	171.66
Fordland	236.97
United (Independent FWB), Lemay	46.70
Koshkonong	54.00
Purdy	258.25
Cope	32.11
New Rock Springs	93.18
Willow Springs	233.68

Gray Summit	121.46
Bailey Chapel	57.00
Harmony, K.C.	316.00
Fellowship	80.00
Fourth	314.00
Waynesville	136.97
Flat River, First	542.09
Farmington	1,150.00
South Side	270.40
Verdella	253.85
Combo Account Interest	167.31
Total	\$19,427.81

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS May 1982

Faith, Fair Grove	\$127.70
Number One	28.60
Oskaloosa	40.68
Pleasant Ridge	45.00
Belton	163.18
Hurryville	164.84
Mt. Zion, Gower	49.40
O'Fallon	337.18
Parkview	188.00
South Fremont	350.00
Grace	657.30
Viburnum	30.00
United, West Plains	100.00
Royal Oak	18.00
New Harmony	11.68
Columbia	50.00
Houston	171.65
Mt. Pisgah	84.00
Faith, Lemay	100.00
Mine La Motte	26.00
Victory, Alton	112.00
Hopewell	130.00
Macedonia	23.00
Union Grove	105.29
Mill Creek	125.21
Grant Avenue	452.72
Lebanon	362.06
Union	120.00
Berkeley	348.50
Trinity	717.15
Joplin	796.10
Merl's Chapel	63.25
Fredericktown, First	406.00
DeSoto	600.00
Community	13.21
Hartville	186.85
Olivet	250.00
Way Side	420.00
Neosho	60.00
Mt. Zion, Thayer	35.40
Rock Chapel	224.50
Byrd	21.74
Byrd	17.00
Wolf Creek	194.37
Gospel Light	60.60
Bethel, Festus	663.00
Hannon	235.00
El Dorado Spgs, First	5.00
Kingsway	50.00
Cabool	270.31
Viburnum	15.00
Thayer	273.38
Black Oak	10.00
Koshkonong	49.00
Copper Mines	212.46
Monett	446.65
Calvary Chapel	222.00
Mtn. Grove, First	535.60

Pleasant Hill	31.52
Rolla	155.25
Fourth	315.00
Marshfield	\$155.70
Waynesville	122.30
Farmington	1,150.00
Seymour	65.86
Freeman Chapel	100.80
Hazel Creek	264.00
Willow Springs	250.09
Interest Combo Acct.	178.47
Total	\$14,827.21

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

April 1982

18.50% Missouri State Home Missions	\$3,594.14
16.00% Promotional Department	3,108.45
4.50% General Fund	874.25
5.50% Youth Camp	1,068.53
2.00% Christian Board of Education	388.56
2.00% SS & CTS	388.56
7.00% Missouri State Retirement Village	1,359.94
5.00% Missouri State Retirement Program	971.39

6.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College

1,165.67

11.00% Foreign Missions	2,137.06
8.00% FWBBC	1,554.22
6.00% Executive Department	1,165.67
6.00% National Home Missions	1,165.67
2.00% National Board of Ret. & Ins.	388.56
.25% Layman's Board	48.57
.25% Theological Commission	48.57
Total	\$19,427.81

This month is the first month of the 1982-83 Associational Year. It has been a wonderful month for which we are so grateful. I trust that this is a preview of the entire year. It can be and will be as we share in this unified effort to spread the gospel throughout the world. May the Lord continue to bless the faithfulness of His people.

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

May 1982

18.50% Missouri State Home Missions	\$2,743.03
16.00% Promotional Department	2,372.35
4.50% General Fund	667.22
5.50% Youth Camp	815.50
2.00% Christian Board of Education	296.55
2.00% SS & CTS	296.55
7.00% Missouri State Retirement Village	1,037.90
5.00% Missouri State Retirement Program	741.36

6.00% Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College

\$ 889.63

11.00% Foreign Missions	\$1,630.99
8.00% FWBBC	1,186.18
6.00% Executive Department	889.63
6.00% National Home Missions	889.63
2.00% National Board of Ret. & Ins.	296.55
.25% Layman's Board	37.07
.25% Theological Commission	37.07
Total	\$14,827.21

This is the second month of the 1982-83 year. The Lord is blessing and I trust that we shall never take His blessings for granted. Because the month ended on a Monday holiday it does not reflect the total cooperative giving for the month of May. But it will be reflected in next month's giving. The State and National ministries are undergirded and supported through cooperative and designated giving. May the Lord continue to bless the faithfulness of the givers.

Essentials of Evangelism

by Stanley Jones

When a baseball club wins a game, the pitcher seems to receive all the recognition. While it may be fair to give the winning pitcher much of the credit, he would have a difficult time winning if it was not for the help from his teammates. In my opinion, winning a baseball game takes team effort.

Team effort is also necessary for a church to succeed at evangelism. No one individual in the church can take all the credit when a soul comes to Christ. Let me give you an example of what I mean.

Recently in the church where I pastor, a young man in his early twenties came to the altar during a Sunday night invitation. For those who didn't know otherwise, it might have appeared that the man's response was the result of the evening message. But, many of us in the service that night knew differently. The public decision of this man was the combined result of a Christian witness on the job, the witness of his landlady, the prayers of the church every Wednesday night, the witness of a layman and myself during the Thursday night visitation program, and the work of the Holy Spirit. In fact, his decision to follow Christ was made in the home. But as he knelt before the altar, everyone who had a part in bringing this soul to Christ rejoiced together.

Now, team work is being used to help this young convert to grow. He is involved in follow-up with the pastor and another layman, he is still remembered in prayer by the church, he still has the witness of fellow Christians, and he is being encouraged through the fellowship of the church's softball team.

I'm reminded of two verses in 1 Corinthians that seem to sum up this team effort in evangelism. "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. For we are labourers together with God: . . ." 1 Corinthians 3:6, 9a.

Graduate School Receiving Applications

Free Will Baptist Bible College's Graduate School, scheduled to open in August 1982, invites those who wish to apply to contact the school. Detailed information may be obtained by writing Dr. Robert Picirilli, c/o Free Will Baptist Bible College, 3606 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37205.

Dr. Ange Enters Field of Full Time Evangelism

Dr. Joseph Ange resigned his position at Free Will Baptist Bible College. His resignation became effective at the close of the school year, May 15, 1982. He served as the college Director of Religious Activities and Director of Christian Service and Campus Pastor.

He will be available for pastors' conferences and missionary conferences along with his evangelistic endeavor. He may be contacted at this address: 606 McDonald Court, Nashville, TN 37217 or phone 615-361-6226.

From Our Missionaries

The Lytles in Panama: Thanks to all the churches in Missouri that contribute to our account. We are thankful to be representing them in Panama. A young man 22 years of age was saved and baptized a relatively short time ago. Judy led a lady and her teenage sister to the Lord recently and they followed the Lord in water baptism. We think of you often and appreciate your fellowship in the Lord.

The Manesses in New Jersey: Please pray for our continued growth. In April we averaged 24 in morning worship, 18 in Sunday school and our finances were up \$156.00.

Thanks to those that are giving regular monthly support and thanks to those who have purchased church bonds.

The Fulchers in Nashville: We have reason to rejoice. If our income is as good for May as it was for March and April we will have the needed finances to go forward with the Spanish American ministry. Let me encourage you to continue with us in this ministry. The opportunity is great. We must have continued financial support. With your praying and giving hopefully our account will stay out of the red. We really appreciate the good offerings we receive from the churches in Missouri.

Brother Reeves Honored at St. Francois Association

Brother A. E. Jenkerson, clerk of the St. Francois District Association, writes that on April 23, 1982 at the Friday evening session of the association, Brother Jim Stovall showed some slides of the history of the Missouri State Youth Camp. Reverend William Reeves helped with the narration. Immediately following the slide presentation Brother Reeves was given a surprise by presenting him a plaque from the association, recognizing his 26 years of service to the camp by serving as caretaker and superintendent. He served from 1946 to 1972. He is now a member of and working with the Desoto Free Will Baptist Church.

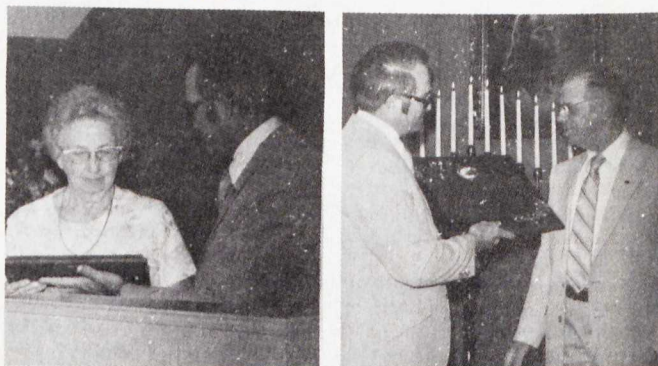
A wonderful time of fellowship and refreshments were enjoyed following the service.

A Note of Thanks from Waynesville

Mrs. Ida Stafford, member of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Waynesville, Missouri, writes this item of praise. I thank the Lord for blessing me with many new friends at the Free Will Baptist Church in Waynesville. I have a special, very special place in my heart for each one and it makes me very sad to think that soon I'll be leaving. Perhaps I will never see many of the ones that I love until we reach Heaven.

I pray the Lord will bless each one that serves Him and that everyone will grow stronger in their faith and determine that nothing will cause them to quit. I pray the Lord will bless the fine pastor, Brother John and his loving and caring wife. May they have good health and the patience to continue in the Lord's work and never become discouraged.

Educational Building Dedicated at Freeman Chapel



Sunday, June 6, was a special day at the Freeman Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. The church held a Dedication Service for the recently built educational addition. The addition included spacious classrooms, complete kitchen and dining facilities, the pastor's study, and a foyer. While doing this building the church installed new carpeting in the auditorium and carpeting in the Fellowship Hall.

At the beginning of the morning worship the pastor, Reverend Vernon Maggart presented a plaque to two people, Mr. Kerns and Mrs. Boyes, for their labor and encouragement that helped make possible the building of the educational unit. He also presented a surprise gift of \$1,000 from the church to Darren Verbick the church musician. He was selected to make a tour in Europe with a choral group of young people. He will serve as pianist for the group.

Reverend Clarence Burton, promotional secretary, delivered the dedicatory message. He mentioned four qualities that reflect a great church: compassion, compulsion, commitment, and consecration. These, he said, "were surely reflected in the ministry of the Freeman Chapel Free Will Baptist Church."

A youth choral group called "The Special Delivery" presented several special songs to a full auditorium. The church provided a bountiful and delicious dinner following the dedication service.

Report

On

State

Association



by Clarence Burton

Was it the preaching? the singing? the fellowship? that made the Missouri State Association so great! To take any part out would be like taking an important ingredient out of a properly mixed cake—something would be missing. Every part of the association was in its proper proportion and mixed beautifully. It has been said before but it bears repeating—it seems that each year it gets better. Truly the Lord does bless in an unusual way each year.

The theme "Building God's Church" was well developed by the preachers. It stirred the "get-up-and-go" and made one want to go back and build a church for the Lord. Many, no doubt, felt as one preacher gave his testimony at the close of the Wednesday evening service, "If I don't build a church where I'm pastoring I think I'll die!" That's desire; that's motivation, and I believe by the grace of God this pastor will build a church. May this be the desire of every pastor and layman. The singing was beautiful. The special singing, the congregational singing, the music director, and the musicians were blessed and used of God to bless in every service. The devotional messages complemented the theme and prepared the delegates for the business sessions. The ones that presided handled the services under the sweet leadership of the Holy Spirit.

A hearty thanks to those who were on the program and to the pastor and members of the Grace Church. The sixty-ninth session of the Missouri State Association will be long remembered as a great one that was blessed of God.

This year was Reverend Dale Skiles last term as moderator. The by-law states that the moderator can only serve three successive terms. Brother Skiles has served efficiently and effectively as moderator of the Missouri State Association. He has done a tremendous job. Under his leadership the items of business were treated fairly, discussions were open within the structure of the guidelines (a bit of humor was injected when needed), and the association moved as smoothly as a peaceful stream of water. A great big thanks to Brother Skiles from all of us for a job well done. Reverend Millard Sasser the assistant moderator was elected to serve as moderator. Brother Sasser has the ability and leadership to serve well in this

capacity. We are anticipating continuous growth as we labor under his guidance. Let us remember him in our prayers. I surely want to mention the fine work done by Brother Nathan Ruble as clerk and Brother Richard Robinson as assistant clerk. These men gave up their positions by choice. Reverend Ruble was elected to serve as assistant moderator and Reverend Robinson felt that he was involved in enough activities at present. Brother Joe Braddy was elected to serve as clerk and Brother J. L. Tilson was elected to serve as assistant clerk. These men will serve well in these positions.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year. We adopted a budget of \$205,000.00 for cooperative giving. This may seem unreachable but by the help of the Lord and through the faithfulness of concerned pastors and churches we can do it. I trust that we will. I am also praying for growth in our Sunday schools and churches. Let's set some goals in this area. Then, work and pray and trust God for the increase.

The Lord has blessed with a wonderful state work. He has given us youth and maturity, unity and harmony. By His grace let's make the 1982-83 year one of the best.

Points for Pastors

by Jim McAllister

What kills a church? In the last issue I posed the question "Is church growth a choice?" I ask that same question again and add "Is it a command?" There you have the issue. Is church growth a choice or a command?

In 1980 we had a Conference on Evangelism here in our church. I entitled it, "Growth, God's Mandate To The Church." We had a large banner put up in the church and left there for a year. In our Pastor's School we have emphasized that point. I've noticed other pastors putting up similar banners. But putting up a banner doesn't make the difference. The church must become convinced that growth *is* God's mandate to the church. The pastor can never convince the church of this fact until he is convinced himself.

You see there is a very important factor here. If growth *is* God's mandate to the church then non-growth *is* sin. It is a sin for the pastor and for the laymen.

Now I personally believe every church can grow. Some will grow more than others but all can grow some. Naturally, sin factors are involved. If laziness, hatred, lack of unity, and lack of desire are present then growth will be stopped and the process of death will result.

Your church can grow. No matter where it's located. No matter its size, it can show some growth. Members represent souls—eternal souls. These are souls that will live forever. I've heard preachers say that they didn't want their church to grow large. My answer to that is "Who made them judge over who goes to Heaven or Hell?"