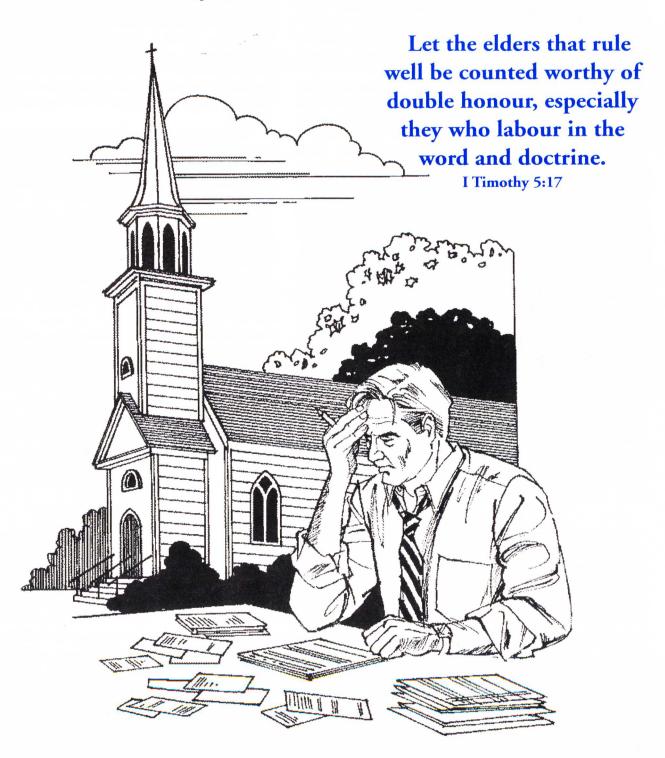


Volume 71, No.9, September 2000



Often Asked Questions

By Pastor R. E. Dablemont



Which Translation?

A few months ago I received a very courteous letter from one of our Missouri pastors in reference to the issue of which translation of the Bible we should encourage our people to use. I know this pastor personally, and while I will not mention his name, I knew he loves dearly, both the

people he serves locally, and Free Will Baptist brethren across the state and nation.

He very courteously explained to me his concerns about my use of the *New International Version* translation in this column. He further explained that just recently an article from *Bible Pathway* by Dr. John Hash, had been brought to his attention by a member of his congregation. This article was highly critical of the *New International Version*, and in essence, cast doubt on its credibility as an accurate translation of the Holy Scriptures. This pastor, very conscientiously, had warned his congregation about modern translations that he believed were not accurate representations of the Word of God.

The fact is, neither this good pastor nor I are experts in the field of biblical linguistics. Both of us have studied Greek, but in reality, neither of us are Greek scholars. Both of us are firm believers in the authenticity, accuracy, and authority of the Bible. We would both find ourselves in agreement with the orthodox, historical, fundamental, evangelical position that the Bible in its original sources is without error on any subject which it speaks. But we have reached different conclusions about the reliability of the *New International Version*. The fact is, I have some reservations about some aspects of both the *King James Version* and the *New International Version* translations. For example, careful manuscript study presents a strong argument that the *KJV* may contain some scribal additions and the *NIV* may very well, in places, take too much liberty in attempting to eliminate redundancy with its focus upon dynamic language interpretation.

While the *KJV* dates back to the early 17th century (1611), and the *NIV* to the late 20th century (1973), I rely heavily on both translations for personal study and both for preaching and teaching. I also find it necessary to probe the writings and opinions of men like our own linguistic expert, Dr. Robert Picirilli, of our FWB Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, as well as men like Dr. Harold Mayer, Professor of Biblical Languages at Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri (who served on the panel of translators of the *NIV* original translation and who I sweated under in three Greek classes during my work there in pursuit of my Masters degree).

While this dear brother pastor requested that I not use the *NIV* as a text source in this column, I too must follow my conscience, and my conscience tells me to encourage all who love the Lord to "study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15, *KJV*).

I can best do this myself by use of both translations as well as others. My prayer is that all God's people will respect and understand their pastor's concern and position of this issue which is, most certainly, motivated by a desire to protect the flock from aberration or heresy. Thank you, dear brother, for your letter!

If you have a question you would like answered about practical theology (putting into practice the teachings of God's Word), please send it to me and I will try (notice I said "try") to address the question in this monthly column.

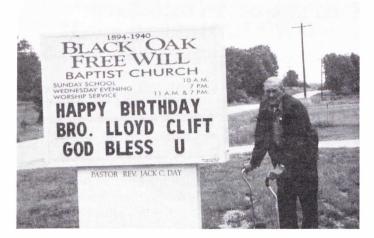
Mailing Address:

R. E. Dablemont - 651 Oakdale Circle - Cuba, MO 65453 E-Mail Address: apologistrick@yahoo.com

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The First Free Will Baptist Church located in Ozark, Missouri, has 40 used pews for sale. The pews are padded and in very good shape. 26 of the pews measure 13.5 feet in length, and the other 14 pews vary in length. The purchase price is \$6,000.00. For more information, call 417-581-5246.

All items for publication must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 5th of the month preceding the issue month.Business Office: 202 West Commercial, P.O. Box 991, Lebanon, Missouri 65536, Nathan Ruble, Editor. Address all correspondence relating to the GEM, incuding subscription and mailing information, to the above address. The sermons and articles published in the GEM respresent 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. Subscription rates: Single subscription, \$4.50 per year, cash in advance. Church Plan, \$4.00 per year, consisting of five subscriptions or more. The Church Plan will continue until it is canceled by the church. This magazine is published monthly.



Black Oak FWB Church Honors Brother Lloyd Clift

On Saturday, June 17th, the congregation of Black Oak Free Will Baptist Church, along with family members and friends, gathered for a reception to celebrate the 85th birthday of Brother Lloyd Clift.

Brother Clift is a lifelong member of the Black Oak Church, where he has always served in active roles. In his younger years, he was the song director, Sunday School Superintendent, and Adult Sunday School teacher. He currently serves as a deacon of the church, and is still faithful in his attendance. He and his son, Steve, are currently part of a group that sings

and ministers in local nursing homes.

The church loves Brother Lloyd Clift, and is grateful for his commitment and faithfulness to God throughout his life.

Hannon FWB Church Begins Construction

By Cindi Thompson

Hannon Free Will Baptist Church has started the construction of an 11,667 square foot church building. The sanctuary will be 4,000 square feet, with the educational wing taking up the remainder.

This picture was taken on May 7, 2000 when we had a special service to dedicate the land and the project to God. The three acres where the church will be located was donated by one of the elders of the church, and sits approximately ½ mile southeast of the current church location.

Work is progressing very well and, the Lord willing, we hope to be in the new building by November. Rev. George Naumann is pastor.



Rev. Michael W. "Mickey" Sanstra April 1, 1941 - July 2, 2000

Rev. Mickey Sanstra, age 59, died on Sunday, July 2, 2000, at University Hospital in Denver, where he had been hospitalized since March in need of a heart transplant. Brother Sanstra was the pastor of New Beginnings Free Will Baptist Church in Odessa, Missouri.

His survivors include his wife, Jean, two daughters, Kim Skillman of Kansas City, Michelle Middleton of Bates City, one son, John of Kansas City, and three grandchildren; also his mother, Frances Sanstra, of Kansas City.

Brother Mickey was a member and past president of the MO-KAN Gospel Music Association; a long-time member and former clerk for the Greater Kansas City Free Will Baptist Association; and a past member of the Oak Grove Park Board. He was licensed and ordained in Mullins, S. C., and had been a computer analyst before entering the ministry 25 years ago. He was also an Army veteran and an avid member of the horse riding community.

To help recognize his efforts in his community, several organizations want to help his family with the high medical costs. Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Sanstra family, may do so by donating at the Commercial Bank in Oak Grove. The Free Will Baptist Church in Oak Grove is also accepting donations. The address for the church is 400 W. 8th Street, Oak Grove, Missouri 64075.

Convention Adopts New Election Procedure

ANAHEIM, CA—Delegates to the 64th annual Free Will Baptist national convention adopted a new procedure regarding election of the executive secretary during the July 16-20 meeting in Anaheim. The four-part procedure required a change in the Treatise in the By-Laws section.

With the written procedure now in place, the next executive secretary will be selected under the new formula. First, the Executive Committee will serve as a search committee to screen potential candidates. Second, the Executive Committee will recommend one candidate to the General Board. Third, the General Board will recommend one candidate to the National Association. Fourth, the executive secretary will be elected by majority vote of delegates at the National Association.

In other action, delegates:

ELECTED... members to 35 positions on the following boards and commissions: General Officers (4), General Board (12), Executive Committee (4), Free Will Baptist Bible College Trustees (3), Foreign Missions Board (3), Sunday School and Church Training Board (3), Home Missions Board (2), Commission for Theological Integrity (1), Media Commission (1), Music Commission (1), Historical Commission (1).

REGISTERED... 4,443 people in three concurrent conventions, including 431 ordained ministers, 73 deacons, 38 local church delegates, 72 state delegates, 64 home missionaries, 27 foreign missionaries, 1,362 non-delegates, 1,733 for the National Youth Conference and 586 for the WNAC convention.

ADOPTED... a record \$21.3 million denominational budget for the following agencies: Foreign Missions- \$7 million; Home Missions- \$4.5 million; Free Will Baptist Bible College- \$4.4 million; Sunday School and Church Training- \$3.5 million; Executive Office- \$700,000; Retirement & Insurance- \$399,000; Master's Men- \$218,000; Free Will Baptist Foundation- \$116,000; Music Commission- \$46,375; Historical Commission- \$4,800; Commission for Theological Integrity- \$2,800; Media Commission- \$200,000.

APPROVED... the Budget Committee's recommendation that gifts received through The Together Way Plan be allocated to national ministries on the following basis: (1) Underwrite the Executive Office administrative budget above designated gifts, not to exceed 45% of cooperative gifts; (2) Disburse the balance of cooperative gifts according to these percentages- Free Will Baptist Bible College 23%, Foreign Missions 23%, Home Missions 18%, Retirement and Insurance, 14%, Master's Men 14%, Free Will Baptist Foundation 6%, Commission for Theological Integrity 0.5%, Historical Commission 0.5%, Music Commission 0.5%, Media Commission 0.5%.

GAVE... a Wednesday evening missionary offering topping \$18,600. Undesignated funds will be divided between home and foreign missionaries.

SELECTED... Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as the site for the 2010 convention. The convention last met in Oklahoma City in 1968.

LOVED... the short walk, flat terrain and cool temperatures between the two major convention hotels and the Anaheim Convention Center.

HEARD... five sermons in convention worship services delivered by the following men: Ron Helms (Michigan), R. Edward Cook (Arkansas), Doug King (North Carolina), Tim Owen (Florida) and David Shores (Illinois).

GATHERED... in the Anaheim Convention Center Monday afternoon to hear Dr. H. B. London, Jr., vice-president at Focus on the Family, speak in a two-hour Pastors/Laymen Conference.

FILLED... the Pacific Ballroom at Hilton Anaheim Hotel to hear Pat Clary speak Tuesday noon at the first-ever WNAC Fellowship Luncheon. More than 230 people were on hand for the event.

THANKED... the California State Association for their splendid work in hosting the 2000 convention. This marked the fifth time the National Association has met in California.

JOINED... WNAC Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. to hear missionary to Brazil Annette Aycock speak at the Anaheim Convention Center.

WONDERED... where all the exhibitors went this year. Because of limited space in the convention center's Arena Lobby, only 40 spaces were available. Two-thirds of those were allocated to national agencies.

COMPLAINED... at the inconvenience of registering on the second floor of the headquarters hotel instead of the convention center. About one-fourth of the attendees did not register but did attend worship services and business sessions.

LISTENED... carefully Tuesday afternoon at the Theological Irends Seminar while Dr. Thomas Marberry explained the four views of the Lord's Supper. The room was set for more than 300 people.

PRAISED... the Music Commission who arranged four powerful days of solos, choirs, quartets, trios and rousing congregational singing.

CELEBRATED... when Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington announced that the \$1.5 million indebtedness on the National Offices Building was paid off in June. The National Offices relocated in 1991 from 1134 Murfreesboro Road in Nashville to 5233 Mt. View Road in Antioch.

ACCEPTED... the initial report of the Educational Task Force which was appointed in 1999. The 16-man task force chaired by Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington includes the presidents and deans of four Free Will Baptist colleges and the seminary in Mexico, as well as five additional members appointed by Moderator Carl Cheshier. The group met and organized in December 1999, and committees were assigned work at various tasks. The Task Force will reconvene in January 2001.

OCCUPIED... almost 600 rooms in two major convention hotels—Hilton Anaheim (headquarters) and the Anaheim Marriott.

SALUTED... the National Youth Conference for sending more than 400 youths into the streets of Anaheim and Los Angeles to distribute tracts, work in

Ground-Breaking Service Held At United FWB -West Plains

On Sunday, May 14, 2000, a ground-breaking service was held for a multi-purpose building at the United Free Will Baptist Church, 607 Lanton Road, West Plains. The new building will be connected to the present facility, which will have some renovation to it.

Pastor, Rev. Glenn Murray opened the service, stating that the Lord has blessed the ministry of the United Church with a rich heritage and a fruitful ministry. The Lord has brought together a group of people who love the Lord and are involved in the labor of the church. He recognized the charter members



present: Dave & Mable Uhlmann, Lynn & Ruth Danahay, Chole Sanders, Vera Sanders, Eudene Holt, Dennis Atkisson, Morgan and Louise Whitsel, Geneva Wylie, and Cynthia Collins. He then recognized and introduced the mayor of West Plains, Mr. Joe Evans. The mayor complimented the church for its ministry and outreach in West Plains and neighboring communities.

Rev. J. W. King, a member and long-time friend of the church, was recognized. He read a very appropriate poem entitled "Building The Building For Them."

Rev. Clarence Burton, associate pastor, read a selection of appropriate Scripture and stated, "Because the Lord has blessed in the growth of the church, it has necessitated that we enlarge our facilities. Today, as we break the ground (turn the sod), we can say, "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

Rev. Dennis McGinley, youth pastor, led in a prayer of consecration following the "turning of the sod."

The new building and the renovation of the present facility will provide additional assembly areas, Sunday school rooms, a gymnasium, fellowship area, kitchen, elevator, additional restrooms, nursery, enlarged foyer, new heating and cooling system, and a remodeled video room. The construction company has set December 31, 2000 as the date for completion.

The United Church is blessed with so many faithful and dedicated Christian workers who are vitally involved in this

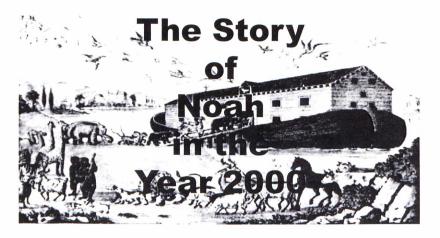


building program. The building committee: Stanley Taylor, Chairman; Truell Harrison, Bill Kinbrough, Jeff Tilson and Paul Farrow. The Color Coordinating Committee: Sherrie Thompson, Mabel Uhlmann and Tim Tilson. The women of the church will be choosing the items for the kitchen and the nurseries. The Deacons: Norman Carte, Jack Wallace, Jim Lunyou, Richard King

Charter Members & Others

and Stanley Taylor. The Trustees: Junior Brixley, J. W. Stapleton, Curtis Haney, Kenny Dill, Bill Kinbrough and Jeff Tilson. These and many, many more are the faithful and dedicated Christians the Lord is using at the United Free Will Baptist Church. The prayer of the church is that we will be faithful in serving our wonderful Saviour, the precious, Lord Jesus Christ.

Adopt a Share in the Great Commission! Support the Missouri Show-Me Plan



f Noah lived in the United States to day and God spoke to him and said, "In one year I am going to make it rain and cover the whole earth with water until all flesh is destroyed, but I want you to save the righteous people and two of every kind of living thing on the earth. Therefore, I am commanding you to build an Ark."

In a flash of lightning, God delivered the specifications for an Ark. In fear and trembling, Noah took the plans and agreed to build the Ark.

"Remember," said the Lord, "You must complete the Ark and bring everything aboard in one year."

Exactly one year later, fierce storm clouds covered the earth and all the seas of the earth went into a tumult. The Lord saw that Noah was sitting in his front yard weeping.

"Noah," He shouted. "Where is the Ark?"

"Lord, please forgive me!" cried Noah. "I did my best, but there were big problems. First, I had to get a permit for construction, and your plans did not meet the codes. I had to hire an engineering firm and redraw the plans. Then I got into a fight with OSHA over whether or not the Ark needed a fire sprinkler system and flotations devices. Then my neighbor objected, claiming I was violating zoning ordinances by building the Ark in my front yard, so I had to get a variance from the city planning commission. Then I had problems getting enough wood for the Ark, because there was a ban on cutting trees to protect the Spotted Owl. I finally convinced the U. S. Forest Service that I needed the wood to save the owls. However, the Fish and Wildlife Service won't let me catch any owls, so no owls. The carpenters formed a union and went out on strike. I had to negotiate a

settlement with the National Labor Relations Board before anyone would pick up a saw or hammer. Now I have 16 carpenters on the Ark, but still no owls. When I started rounding up the other animals, I got sued by an animal rights group. They objected to me only taking two of each kind aboard. Just when I got the suit dismissed, the EPA notified me that I could not complete the Ark without filing an environmental impact statement on your proposed flood. They didn't take very kindly to the idea that they had no jurisdiction over the conduct of the Creator of the universe. Then the Army Corp of Engineers demanded a map of the proposed new flood plan. I sent them a globe. Right now I am trying to resolve a complaint filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission that I am practicing discrimination by not taking godless, unbelieving people aboard. The IRS has seized my assets, claiming that I'm building the Ark in preparation to flee the country to avoid paying taxes. I just got a notice from the state that I owe them some kind of user tax and failed to register the Ark as a "recreational water craft." Finally the ACLU got the courts to issue an injunction against further construction of the Ark, saying that since God is flooding the earth, it is a religious event and therefore unconstitutional."

"I really don't think I can finish the Ark for another five or six years," Noah wailed.

The sky began to clear, the sun began to shine and the seas began to calm. A rainbow arched across the sky. Noah looked up hopefully. "You mean you are not going to destroy the earth, Lord?"

"No," said the Lord sadly, "I don't have to. The government already has."

Copied

MBI 2000 Fall Schedule

We welcome Dr. Malcolm Fry to the staff of the Missouri Bible Institute. Dr. Fry will be replacing Rev. Ken Dodson as the Instructor in the southeast area of the state. Classes in that area will continue on schedule as

previously planned. Courses at all sites may be taken for college credit or on an auditing basis. Our Bible Institute will offer college classes this fall beginning in late August or early September (depending upon the site location) at the following locations:

<u>Location</u> Cuba FWB Church Cuba, MO	Instructor R. E. Dablemont	Phone Number (573) 885-3543
First FWB Church Mtn. Grove,MO	Gary Fry	(417) 926-5396
Fellowship FWB Church Park Hills, MO	Dr. Malcolm Fry	(573) 431-6148

For enrollment information regarding the courses being offered at each location, please contact the Instructor at the site nearest you.



Missouri State Youth Conference

November 17-18, 2000 at Windermere Baptist Assembly



Speaker: Barry St. Clair Are you looking for a spiritual "boost"? If so, this year's conference is just for you! For only 40 bucks per person, you'll get 4 sessions with one of the most incredible speakers in the country (Barry St. Clair), a kickin' concert by Satellite Soul & Jason Ingram, awesome worship experiences, loads of laughs and tons of fun! You'll be challenged to be "salt and light" in your town, and on your campus. God will definitely "light your fire!" The price also includes one night's lodging and 3, count 'em. 3 delicious meals! You'll meet other Free Will Baptist students from across the state and you'll go home changed, refreshed, revived and ready to "Salt the Planet" where you live! Don't miss it!

Music: Satellite Soul & Jason Ingram



2000 Missouri State Youth Conference

Group Registration Form

(Must be postmarked by October 10.)

Church	F	City	
Group Lead	ler	Leader's Phone #	
Address			Zip
Guys		Girls	
1		1	
	Phone #		Phone #
Grade	Phone #	Grade	Phone #
Grade	Phone #	Grade	Phone #
4		4	
Grade	Phone #	Grade	Phone #
Grade	Phone #	Grade	Phone #
Grade	Phone #	Grade	Phone #
7	DI	7	
Grade	Phone #	Grade	Phone #
Grade	Phone #	Grade	Phone #
Grade	Phone #	Grade	Phone #
10 Grade	Phone #	10 Grade	Phone #
Male Spon: 1		<i>Female Sponsor</i> 1	
Age	Phone #	Age	Phone #
2 Age	Phone #	Age	Phone #
3		3	
Age	Phone #	Age	Phone #
Age	Phone #	4 Age	Phone #

Cost of the conference is \$40 per person. x \$40 = \$ (Includes lodging and three meals.) (# attending) Mail completed registration form, check for registration fees and medical release forms to: **Missouri FWB Youth Ministries Board** Gene Howell, Treasurer

208 Cypress, Park Hills, MO 63601

(Total Amount)

(573) 431-2533 or 431-5959

All forms must be postmarked by October 10. After October 10, the fee increases to \$45.

Camper Medical Release Form Windermere Baptist Assembly Roach, MO

Camper's Name		Sex	Age
Parent or Legal Guardian			
Home Address	(City)		(Zip Code)
Residence Phone ()Bu			
Church Coming With			
Allergic to any Medicine? If yes, what?			
If not available in an emergency, notify:			
	Phone	()	
	Phone	()	
I,, having legal c (Parent or Guardian) who resides with me at the above address, am ent	ustody of(Minor) rusting the care	of him/her	to the adults
responsible for the camp program in which the ch			
, 19 through			
located at Roach, Missouri.			
Conference: Missouri Free Will Baptist State Yo	uth Conference		
Authorization For Em	ergency Care		
I hereby give permission to the physician selected by the child to order x-rays, routine tests and treatment for the	camp personnel en e health of my chil	trusted with d, in the ev	the care of my ent I cannot be

child to order x-rays, routine tests and treatment for the health of my child, in the event I cannot be reached in an emergency. I hereby give permission to the said physician to hospitalize, secure proper treatment for, and to order injection and/or anesthesia and/or surgery for my child as named above. I also authorize said physician or any physician or hospital who has previously treated my child, to disclose any information thus acquired, if requested, to the camp's insurance carrier.

(Signature of Parent or Guardian)

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(Date)

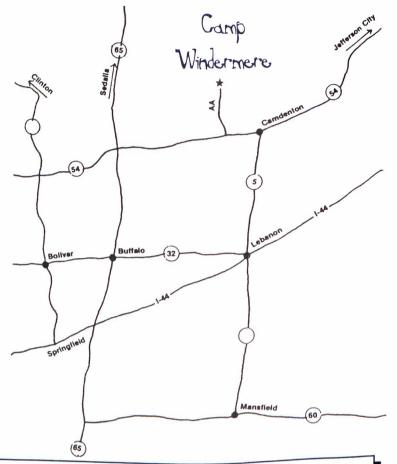
(PLEASE PHOTOCOPY ONE FOR EACH ATTENDEE)

About Barry St. Clair:

Barry's primary desire is to see spiritual awakening take place in the younger generation, and to have youth ministers effectively equipped for the work of the ministry in the local church. He speaks to thousands of students and trains hundreds of youth workers every year, both in the United States and around the world.

About Satellite Soul:

This three-member band is led by the songwriting and musical efforts of Tim Suttle on vocals, guitars, piano and dulcimer. Ryan Green (drums) and Tyler Simpson (bass) round out the roster. Suttle's simple, profound songs about commitment, honesty and yielding to God's will swell with contentment and joy, secured by the knowledge that, "everything around me, it is passing away... and You are always the same."



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

2000 Missouri State Youth Conference Schedule

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

 4:00 p.m Begin Registration 7:00 p.m Supper 7:45 p.m Satellite Soul in Concert 9:00 p.m Meet Barry St. Clair 10:00 p.m Break 10:15 p.m Late Night Options Workshops Youth Workers's Reception Hang Out Time 11:00 p.m Cabin Devotions 11:30 p.m LIGHTS OUT 	7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 noon 1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 3:15 p.m.	 Breakfast Session 2 with Barry Break Session 3 with Barry Lunch "OFF THE WALL" (Youth) "Youth Workers Only" with Barry Break Closing Rally with Barry & Satellite Soul	

Satellite Soul will lead the praise and worship music for each session.

ATTENTION YOUTH WORKERS: It is <u>your</u> responsibility to have your students in each session on time. Attendance is <u>required</u> in all sessions except the Late Night Options. Schedule is subject to change.

PRE-TEEN GAMP SNAPS AND STATS

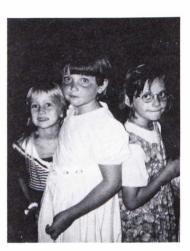
Beautiful weather was the norm for the two weeks of pre-teen youth camp. 789 campers and workers registered for the two sessions. God blessed the teaching and preaching of His Word. 67 campers made first time decisions for Christ, 50 made confession of rededicating their lives to the Lord, and 2 answered God's call for special service. The offerings totaled



\$7,617.87 for the two sessions.

The totals for all three weeks of camp reflect a good increase over the 1999 camp sessions. Total registered: 1,323, total saved: 84, Total rededications: 95, Calls to special service: 6, Total offerings: \$12,657.87.

A good number of volunteer workers used their time at camp to work on the new tabernacle. You are encouraged to continue to give to the Camp Redevelopment Fund.















(Convention -

continued from page 4)

food banks, prepare food for the disadvantaged and more.

INVESTED... more than \$2 million in the Anaheim economy. This includes hotel rooms, food, shopping, gasoline and more.

LOGGED... 431 entries in the NYC Bible Competition and the Music and Arts Festival. The Greenwood, Arkansas, Bible Bowl team won first place, as did the Limestone, Tennessee, Tic-Tac-Toe team.

CHEERED... when NYC officials announced the Youth Group of the Year (Heritage F.WB Church, Fredericksburg, Virginia), Youth of the Year (Amanda Smith, Oklahoma), Youth Worker of the Year (Andrew Brosnac, California).

LEARNED... that WNAC will decorate and furnish the Mission House to be built on the new campus of Free Will Baptist Bible College by the Foreign Missions and Master's Men Departments.

NODDED... approval when the Foreign Missions Department reported works in 15 countries with 114 missionaries, 150 ordained national pastors, 236 licensed and lay pastors, and seven Bible institutes,*The agency also reported 202 organized churches, 335 mission works, 1344 conversions and a Sunday School attendance of 12,314.

APPLAUDED... bold proposals by the Media Commission to become a full-time agency within three years. The commission arranged for an audio-visual company to provide screens on the convention stage. They also introduced a church video brochure.

AGREED... to participate as the Home Missions Department launched its "1000 in 2000" program. Director of Ministry and Helps, Richard Atwood, will direct the effort to place the gospel in one million homes this year.

ALSO AGREED... to participate in "Operation Saturation" on September 30. The program, sponsored by the Master's Men Department, will feature simultaneous efforts at 50 sites where Home Mission works have started. Volunteers will cooperate with home missionaries to reach every home in those cities with the gospel. Materials have been printed and packaged for the evangelism push. SMILED... as the Board of Retirement reported 108 new enrollees in the retirement program. Some 1,599 are now enrolled. The agency manages more than \$21 million in retirement funds.

AMENED... Free Will Baptist Bible College personnel who announced that plans are on schedule for the school to open classes on the new campus outside Nashville in the fall of 2002.

TABLED... until 2001 a vote on the proposed name change at Free Will Baptist Bible College. If passed next year, the college's new name will be "Palmer College—the Free Will Baptist Bible College."

NUDGED... Randall House Publications to proceed with plans to provide complimentary printing for Russian and Korean Free Will Baptist churches. Several new titles will soon be off the press for denomination-wide use, including an updated version of *History of Free Will Baptists* by William F. Davidson which was originally published in 1985.

ACKNOWLEDGED... the urgent need for prayer when Home Missions director Trymon Messer reported that the agency's cross-cultural outreach now includes 12 Korean and five Russian Free Will Baptist Mission churches, plus numerous Hispanic churches.

CROWDED... into the joint missions rally Tuesday morning sponsored by the Home and Foreign Missions Departments. Keynote speaker Richard Atwood challenged each church to evangelize 1,000 people this year.

PASSED... the convention planning mantle to 36-year-old Dean Jones who has directed the National Youth Conference for the past 11 years. Jones holds the Certified Meeting Planning (CMP) designation and will become the first "Convention Manager" responsible for details of the national convention and the youth conference. He will also work with the WNAC Executive Secretary to help coordinate the WNAC convention.

AWARDED... a plaque of appreciation to Arizona Pastor George Harvey, Jr., who served as registration coordinator for 15 years.

BOUGHT... More than 300 copies of *Integrity: A Journal of Christian Thought.* The 195page theological jour-

nal is the first issue of what the Commission for Theological Integrity hopes will be an annual publication. One copy of the journal will be mailed free to each church this fall. Future issues can be purchased through the agency when it is published annually. Georgia pastor Matt Pinson serves as editor.

TOOK NOTICE... when President Tom Malone announced that the Nashville campus of Free Will Baptist Bible College has been sold for \$13.5 million. The full amount will be paid to the school in early January 2001. An additional \$6 million will be needed to complete the new campus.

TABLED... a General Board recommendation concerning the Mexico Association. The Executive Committee, the General Board and the voting body of the National Association all considered the information regarding appeals, procedural matters and questions of church government in Mexico. A fiveman Special Committee wrestled with the data for several hours Wednesday night before reporting its findings to delegates on Thursday morning. Still, delegates decided it best to table the entire matter.

ADJOURNED... at 9:55 a.m. Thursday morning to meet in Detroit, Michigan, at Cobo Hall for the July 15-19, 2001, session.

Holland HighLights

Thanks for praying for Mary and the girls. They returned safely on Thursday. Mary returned to the school yesterday and the girls return to their 3rd year at the American School in Campinas on Thursday. We thank the Lord for the chance they have to study both English and Portuguese during the year.

The church was full for Sunday School and church on Sunday. Thankfully the cold weather has gone away, hopefully for good. We had 6 first time visitors for the evening service and one person rededicated their life to the Lord. Please pray for Mertes, her brother and his family are members of our church. Please continue to pray for the salvation of more people in the São Jose church and the growth of our Christians.

Commissioning Service Held for Rhodes Family

Sunday, August 6, was a day for mixed emo tions at the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church located in St. Louis, Missouri. There was sadness as the congregation said farewell to Pastor John Rhodes and his family. However, there was the joy of knowing that the Lord had called the family to carry on their ministry in the Virgin Islands. Pastor Rhodes will be serving as Principal of the Free Will Baptist School located in St. Croix, Virgin Islands, and Sister Gail will be teaching in the school.

The church held a commissioning service for the family during the Sunday morning service. Rev.



Nathan Ruble preached the morning message and led in the commissioning service. The commissioning prayer was led by Bob Thiele, a deacon of the church.

During the service, Sue Winchester presented a special synopsis of the family's journey to the new ministry. She used Gilligan's Island as a theme. The service was concluded with Pastor Rhodes baptizing three new converts. Lunch was served by the ladies of the church and afforded time for fellowship and good-byes.

Please pray for Bro. John and Sister Gail as they serve the Lord in their new ministry. Also pray for their children, Randall and Lora. They will be attending Bob Jones University this fall. Fourth Church also desires your prayers as they seek a new pastor.

Praise and Prayer Report

"... he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help." Psalm 22:24b

We feel as if we have been on an emotional roller coaster since we last wrote to you. Some days are still very difficult to get through after losing Jared, but we can feel God's presence so near to us giving us strength where there was none. Many times we have had to cry out for help, and like the above passage says, "He listens to his cry." What a privilege to walk with such a loving God.

We arrived back in Saltillo the first week of April to find our home in shambles. We found that the fire from the lightning of last year had destroyed the entire living room and several things in other parts of the house were lost to electrical surge and soot damage beyond repair. We were extremely thankful to find that all our major appliances still functioned well.

And of course, we had to face the grim task of sorting through Jared's room and packing it. This painful job was even harder due to having to clean the soot from every single item before it could be packed. All of this took it's toll on us physically and emotionally. Paula was sick in bed again for a couple of days.

In spite of everything, the Lord was true to His precious Word. We were able to find another house to rent just two blocks from the former one, and at the same price. This was a major answer to prayer, and although it took us several weeks to find it, it is truly a Godsend.

Immediately we began moving things to the new house

where we at least had electricity and water to work with. As John brought truckloads of items, Paula stayed at the new house washing as much as she could. Then, John would take a time out from moving and scrub, too. Finally it became evident that we were getting nowhere fast. So, we just set up the new living room and dining room as storage and moved the rest in, smoke and all.

Since we had planned to be back in Nashville for Mother's Day and Jared's birthday, we threw everything together in suitcases and headed north. Although we lost over a day with a broken spring on the camper, we praise the Lord that we arrived safely in Nashville the day after Mother's Day. (Oh well, we gave it a good try anyway.)

We plan to head back to Mexico within the next few days. We will swing through Southwest Missouri to visit our parents and family there for a few days before heading south again. Please pray for our trip back.

Now, we saved the best for last. Our daughter, Nikki, has decided to go back with us to help us there in Mexico. She quit her job and has the possibility of another job in Saltillo teaching English in an English Institute. They are begging her to come; now it just remains for them to work out the details of a contract. . .

Let us close by saying again how much your prayers and support mean to us. It is absolutely impossible for us to go forward even one more day without you. We do love you all so much.

The Perfect Pastor

The weekly bulletin of an unidentified church included the following:

"The ideal pastor preaches exactly ten minutes. He condemns sin, but never hurts anyone's feelings. He works from 8:00 a.m. to midnight and also serves as the church janitor. He makes \$40 a week, wears good clothes and donates \$30 a week to the church. He is 29 years old and has 40 years of experience. He makes 15 house calls a day and is always in his office.

If your pastor does not measure up to these criteria, send this list to six other churches that are also dissatisfied with their pastor. Then, bundle up your pastor and send him to the church at the top of the list. In one week you will receive 1,643 pastors. Surely one of them will be perfect. Have faith in this letter. One church broke the chain and got its old pastor back in three months.

Worship Service Averages						
	uary 2			ly 200		
Churches:	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Belton	49	59	50	43	44	50
Buffalo 1st	91	84	105	100	86	96
Calvary Chapel	247	238	252	232	223	217
Calvary Fellowship	317	348	313	298		211
Cape Girardeau	50	52	70	61	55	55
Copper Mines	63	59	68	63	63	00
Cuba	147		140	139	135	130
Columbia		38	37		27	30
Crossroads - Wentzv	rille 63	83	69	62	70	66
DeSoto	201	228	219	219	199	
Fredericktown 1st	52		54			
Hannibal	57	59	70	64		
Hannon	124	154	144	140		
Harmony - Parkville	91	97	95	94	91	91
Hartville	* 105	156	158	150	169	130
Hopewell	46	40	43	40	39	40
Houston	* 46	* 46	* 47	72	65	67
Hurryville	111	117	116	112	102	100
Lebanon 1st				129	130	127
Lebanon FWB	80	72	88	64	63	64
Mill Creek	94	89	100	94		92
Mine La Motte				57		
Monett 1st				65		
Mt. Pisgah	77	83	74	68	78	78
Myrtle	34	37	40	32	33	33
New Life - Licking	66	78	70	74	69	
Oak Hill	25	28				
O'Fallon 1st	93	122	132	103	118	
Ozark 1st	162	203	172	147	143	
Oskaloosa	18		17			
Parkview - Desloge	102	115	114	112	112	
Pleasant Hill	70	63	48	51	53	48
Purdy	70	0.0	70	69	69	63
Richwoods	32	30	32	26	36	
Rock Chapel	0.0	* 44	* 43	54	59	48
Rolla 1st	39	42	51			
Southside	110			21	22	
Springfield 1st	142	146	150	143	126	134
Thayer	+ 70	100	215	179	186	196
Trinity	* 73	100	104	89		
Union Grove	122	139	142	150	129	136
United	537	625	555	568	515	482
Willow Springs	59	74	67	66	66	60

This is only a partial listing. There are 184 FWB churches in MO. Each church is encouraged to send in their Worship Service avg. each month.



Cooperative Disbursements

\$49,747.38 18.50% MO Home Miss\$9,203.27
17.50% Executive Office 8,705.78
3.00% General Fund 1,492.42
.50% Show-Me Plan
8.50% Youth Camp Bd 4,228.53
3.50% Y.C. Restricted 1,741.16
2.00% Youth Ministries Bd 994.95
2.00% C.E. Bd
2.00% Senior Adult Bd 994.95
9.00% MO Detisement 1994.95
9.00% MO Retirement 4,477.26
30.50%
National Ministries, Hillsdale and
California Christian College
Foreign Missions Board
National Home Missions Bd
Same Allocation
FWBBC
Hillsdale FWB College
Executive Department
Layman's Board
Radio & TV Commission
Theological Commission
Historical Commission
Board of Retirement & Insur
1.00% CCC
3.00% Conference Center . 1,492.42
Total\$49,747.38
\$45,141.50
Со-ор
Amity \$214.97
Aulsbury Chapel \$248.10
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Friendship\$474.01
Grace - Arnold \$1,441.00
Grant Avenue \$1,129.27
Greenfield \$289.00
Hannibal \$401.00
Hannon
Harmony - Parkville
Hartville
Heritage
Hopewell
Hurryville
Jackson
lones Chanel \$131.90
Ionlin 1st \$5/8.87
Koshkonong \$145.00
Lead Hill \$228.00
Lebanon \$397.93
Lebanon 1st \$830.34
Lone Star
Macedonia - Niangua \$79.35
Merls Chapel\$136.00
Mens Chaper
Mine La Motte
Mountain Grove 1st \$1,941.60
Mountain Grove 1st
Neosho 1st\$190.00
New Hope - Fredericktown \$70.00
Now Life - Licking \$358.28
Oak Grove - Mt Grove
O'Fallon 1st \$875.00
Olivet \$430.00
Overland \$115.00
Ozark 1et \$1,397.54
Park Hills 1st
Parkview
Pleasant Hill - Thayer \$241.18
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana \$67.00 Potosi 1st
Republic
Richwoods 1st \$552.00
Pollo 1ct \$228.00
Royal Oak\$106.00
5/5.00
South Fremont \$1,676.00
Southeide \$99.02
Springfield \$221.00
Springfield 1st \$1,043.77
St Poters
Stockton \$191.86
Thaver \$855.00
Twin Oak\$1,475.28
Union Grove
Union Light\$136.00
United\$1,542.96
Unity - Lebanon
Verdella
Viburnum
Waynesville 1st \$342.49
West Plains 1st \$679.00
Wilderness \$963.17
Willow Springs \$281.50
Wolf Creek \$341.79
Total\$49,747.38

Show-Me Plan

Show-Me Plan
Aulsbury Chapel \$150.00
Barker, Rev. J \$15.00
Barker, Rev. J \$15.00 Beacon \$300.00
Belton \$165.00
Berean \$30.00
Berry, R \$15.00
Bethel - El Dorado \$109.27
Bethel - Festus \$45.00
Big Creek \$55.00
Bishop, B. J \$15.00
Black Oak \$30.00
Buffalo 1st \$60.00
Buxton, G\$30.00
Cabool \$135.00
Cabool \$135.00
Calvary Chapel - Buffalo \$120.00
Cartee, J\$15.00
Central\$222.00
Central\$352.00 Chism, B\$5.00
Chism, B
Columbia \$100.00
Copper Mines \$150.00
Copper Mines - Teen Class \$30.00
Copper Mines - Yg. Adult Cl \$15.00
Cornerstone - Mtn. Grove \$383.00
Cross Roads - Lebanon \$120.00
Darnell, W \$15.00
DeSoto 1st \$552.50
DeSoto 1st - Auditorium Cl \$15.00
Faith & Hope - W.S \$60.00
Farmington 1st \$750.00
Fordland \$190.00
Fourth \$105.00
Fredericktown 1st \$150.00
Freeman Chapel \$540.00
Garrett, R \$15.00
Gospel Light \$825.00
Grace \$326.00
Graham, S \$15.00
Grant Ave \$325.00
Greenfield\$180.00
Hannibal - WNAC \$45.00 Hannon \$1,678.14
Hannon
Hartville
Houston 1st \$327.00
Hurryville
Hurryville Sr. Adult S.S. Cl \$15.00
Jackson\$30.00
Jones Chapel \$330.00
Joplin 1st \$125.00
Kirk, G \$75.00
Leadington \$180.00
Lebanon 1st \$150.00
Lebanon F.W.B \$30.00
Macedonia - Purdy \$2,000.00
Maggart, D \$45.00
Maggart, D \$45.00
Matthews, G \$250.00
Merl's Chapel \$200.00
Mill Creek\$105.00
Mill Creek Young Adult S.S.C. \$15.00
Mine La Motte \$45.00 Missouri St Womans Aux \$988.16
Monett 1st \$225.00
Mt. Pisgah \$75.00
Mt. Zion - Thayer \$30.00
Neosho 1st \$375.00
New Home - Hartville \$150.00
New Home - Hartville \$3,100.00
New Hope - Fredericktown \$105.00
New Life - Licking \$109.05
New Life - Monett \$300.00
New Testament \$30.00
Oak Grove - Houston \$15.00
O'Fallon 1st \$150.00
Ozark 1st \$40.00

Park Hills 1st	\$198.75
Parkview - Desloge	\$307.04
Pinkerton, J.	
Pleasant Grove - Anderson	
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana	\$50.00
Purdy	
Rehkop, Lon	\$30.00
Richardson, O	
Richwoods	\$52.50
Rolla 1st	\$30.00
Royal Oak	\$120.00
Ruble N.	
South Fremont	\$430.00
Springfield 1st	\$515.00
St. Peters	
Thayer	\$310.00
Thomas, E	
Union Light	\$120.00
United - West Plains	
Unity	\$75.00
Verdella	
Viburnum	\$95.00
Victory - Alton	\$304.25
Waynesville 1st	\$406.05
West Plains 1st	
White, R	\$15.00
Wilderness	\$151.35
Willow Springs - Mtn. Gro	
Willow Springs 1st	\$150.00
Total	

Foreign Missions

i oreign intoorono	
Beacon	\$299.00
Berry, C	\$10.00
Cape Giradeau	\$127.02
Central	\$30.00
Chapman, A	\$20.00
Fourth	\$50.00
Gospel Light	\$60.00
Grace	\$370.82
Grant Ave	\$51.00
Haney, A.	\$20.00
Haney, A.	\$20.00
Harmony Fellowship (CO)	\$134.00
Houston 1st	
Joplin 1st	\$10.00
Lewis, D.	
Matthews, G	\$100.00
Minor, K.	\$10.00
Mission FWB - Lebanon	. \$2,933.73
Neosho 1st	\$30.00
New Testament	\$140.00
O'Fallon 1st	\$10.00
South Fremont	\$31.50
Thayer	
Union Light	
Verdella	
Total	

Nat'l Home Missions

Beacon	\$125.00
Belton	
Bob Thebeau (DeSoto 1st)	\$5.00
Brenda King (DeSoto 1st)	\$5.00
Carthage	\$45.00
DeSoto 1st	
DeSoto 1st - Auditorium Cl	\$10.00
F & H - Aurora	
Farmington 1st	
Fordland	\$60.00
Fourth	\$50.00
Gospel Light	\$80.00
Grace - Arnold	
Grant Avenue	\$37.00
Hannon	. \$886.88
Harmony Fellowship	. \$154.00
Hartville	. \$100.00
Houston 1st	\$35.00
Jackson	\$60.00

Jerry Rader	\$20.00
Joplin 1st	
Macedonia - Purdy	\$200.00
Merls Chapel	
Monett 1st	
Mt. Pisgah	\$25.00
Nathan Ruble	\$10.00
Neosho 1st	\$260.00
New Home - Hartville	\$10.00
New Life - Monett	\$200.00
New Testament	
O'Fallon 1st	
Ozark 1st	
Park Hills 1st	
Richwoods 1st	
South Fremont	
Thayer	
Union Light	\$96.00
United	
United Youth Group	
Unity	
Verdella	
Viburnum	
West Plains 1st	
Wolf Creek	
Total	
	,

State Home Missions

Beacon \$2.00
Belton \$50.00
Berean \$15.00
Central \$10.00
Copper Mines \$60.00
DeSoto 1st \$90.00
DeSoto 1st Children's Ch \$20.00
Fellowship - Dunn, N.C \$5.00
Gospel Light \$80.00
Grace - Arnold \$55.00
Larry Wormington \$30.00
Lebanon Bible & Book St \$288.75
O'Fallon 1st \$49.50
Ozark 1st \$10.00
Parkview\$10.00
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana \$20.00
Richard White (DeSoto 1st) \$10.00
Thayer \$50.00
United \$25.00
Waynesville 1st \$50.00
Total \$930.25

Youth Camp

Hartville	
Willow Springs	10.00
Cabool 1st	20.00
Mt. Pisgah	15.00
New Home - Hartville	10.00
Rolla 1st	20.00
Cornerstone - Mt. Grove	25.00
Lebanon Bible & Book Store 1	57.50
Thayer	50.00
Joplin 1st	90.00
Verdella	
Ozark 1st	10.00
Berean	15.00
DeSoto 1st	55.00
Park Hills 1st	44.28
Buffalo 1st	50.00
Total \$6	56.78

Camp Development Fund

Black Oak S.S (In memory of
Rev. & Mrs. Bill Reeves) 466.80
Willow Springs 5.00
Cabool 1st 500.00
Unity (Chairs for the new
Tabernacle) 90.00
Harmony - Parkville 1,505.00
Houston 1st 100.00
West Plains 1st 290.00
DeSoto 1st Children's Ch 531.00

Wolf Creek			
10121			
Youth Ministries Board			
Lebanon Bible & Book Store 113.75			
Total \$113.75			
Senior Adult Ministries			
Lebanon Bible & Book Store 113.75			
Total \$113.75			
C. E. Board			
Lebanon Bible & Book Store 113.75 Total \$113.75			
10(a)			
Free Will Baptist Bible College			
Nathan Ruble 15.00			
Farmington 1st 132.00			
Thayer 50.00			
Verdella 85.37			
DeSoto 1st 40.00			
Total \$322.37			
Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College Hannon			
Farmington 1st 115.00			
Grant Avenue 8.00			
Thayer 50.00			
Neosho 1st 110.00			
Joplin 1st 75.00			
Beacon 4.00			
Total \$412.00			
California Christian College			
Farmington 1st 78.00			
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Ca

Farmington 1st	. 78.00
Total	\$78.00

Trula Cronk Home for Children

100.00
15.00
100.00
10.00
30.00
33.31
265.00
\$553.31

Rev. John McClure

Rev. John McClure
Gospel Light 80.00
Monett 1st 55.00
Central Western WAC 15.00
Carthage 15.00
Thayer 5.00
DeSoto 1st 15.00
Grace - Arnold 15.00
Total \$200.00

Cornerstone FWB Church

(Brian Brinkhoff)	
Merls Chapel	50.00
New Testament	
Total	70.00

Steve Smith

Farmington	1st	15.00
Total		\$15.00



Update From India

Rev. Carlisle Hanna

Dear Ones.

Greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

"Christians in India are going through organized nationwide terror. They are being attacked in the night, beaten, thrown from buildings, their churches burned to the ground. Roman Catholic nuns have been gang raped, Christian families murdered, and missionaries burned alive. In India, it's OPEN SEASON ON CHRISTIANS," according to an article by John Lindner in Christian Mission. In spite of this persecution, many, many are turning to Christ. We need you to keep our work covered by prayer.

Neil Morgan and David Dodson, students from Free Will Baptist Bible College, were with me my last weeks in India. They are working with our pastors and churches in South India now. Please pray for them as they complete their work and return to U.S.A. on August 1. They have been challenged and have had many new experiences. Do please pray for His enabling as they complete their training and follow our Lord in service as He leads.

Pastor Ronen Guha is suffering greatly from back pain. Doctors in our area have advised him to go to Vellore Christian Medical College and Hospital in South India. His wife is not well. Please pray for them. I continue to have much back pain. please pray that I will be able to get therapy that will help relieve this pain while I am here.

We rejoice that we were able to complete and dedicate new church buildings before leaving India. Our people are so thankful. This is monsoon season there and many have no shelter under which they can worship. We are so grateful for those of you who gave so willingly that we may have these buildings in which to worship.

We opened the MARIE WRIGHT HANNA FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE INSTITUTE in Coimbatore on May 13. I am thankful that I was able to go down to South India for this opening. Please pray for Stanley RajKumar and our pastors as they work to train young men to serve there.

Our pastors and evangelists need to be covered by prayer, as do all of our believers. Our fifty hostel boys and Silas Hansda, Hostel Master, need your prayers. Please pray for us as we prepare to celebrate our Golden Jubilee in Sonapurhat in March, 2001. We want this to be a very special celebration. We claim His protection.

> "Under His wings, what a refuge in sorrow! How the heart yearningly turns to His rest! Often when earth has no balm for my healing, There I find comfort, and there I am blest."

> > -W. Cushing

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support for us and for India. Please pray for our family here as well as in India.

Lovingly in Christ, Carlisle Hanna

MISSOURI STATE ASSN.

OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS 202 West Commercial P.O. Box 991 Lebanon, MO 65536

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