



Missouri Free Will Baptist

# GEM Magazine

Set my soul afire, Lord  
For the lost in sin  
Give to me a passion  
As I seek to win



Volume 94 / Number 4 / July-August, 2023

Photo by Carrie Myers





## In this issue:

From the Editor .....	Page 3
Missouri Missions .....	Page 4
Church News .....	Page 6
Resolved: 2023 MOFWB State Meeting .....	Page 8
2023 Women's Celebration .....	Page 9
From Our Boards	
The Power of the Word .....	Page 10
Under Construction .....	Page 11
75 Years of Missouri Missions .....	Page 12
Ministry Gems .....	Page 14
2023 Evangelism Conference .....	Page 15
State Calendar and Events .....	Page 17
Financial Receipts .....	Page 18
Available Churches and Fill-in List .....	Page 19

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## Article & Photo Submission Deadline

January/February issue.....	deadline: November 30th
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May/June issue.....	deadline: March 31st
July/August issue .....	deadline: May 31st
September/October issue .....	deadline: July 31st
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## Article & Photo Submissions

To submit an article or photo for consideration in the GEM e-mail them to [carrie@mofwb.org](mailto:carrie@mofwb.org) or [stan@mofwb.org](mailto:stan@mofwb.org)





# Accountability

*"The local congregation of believers is the only visible form of the "church" founded by the direct authority of Scripture. Free Will Baptists, therefore, recognize the local church as the sole source of authority possessed and exercised within the visible church.*

*The local church is an **independent and self-governing body**, with full authority to transact its business, choose its pastor and officers, receive, discipline, and dismiss members, hold free title to all its properties, and conduct all its internal affairs."* ~ A Treatise of the Faith and Practices of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc.; Part IV; CHAPTER I; The Local Church; Section I; A&B; pp. 37

*"Local churches **voluntarily** form associations which organize and **cooperate** as the Free Will Baptist denomination."* ~ FWB Treatise; Part IV; The Local Church; Section II; It's Relationships; pp. 38

The Treatise goes on to say on page 47, "Free Will Baptist churches, while independent, **do not practice isolation**. They form associations with one another in several levels of organization...."

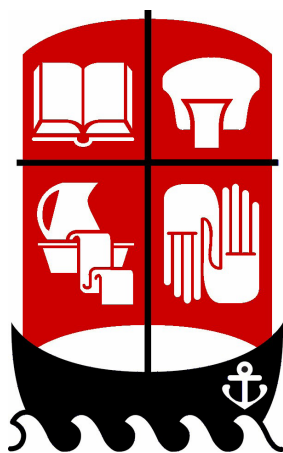
'Autonomy' is a word that is used quite frequently. Autonomy can be good or bad. Positively, autonomy may strengthen interdependence, creativity, and self-reliance, as well as other positive traits. When applied negatively, it can lead to unhealthy independence, pride, isolation, and other unwholesome traits.

The first paragraph of the FWB Covenant states, "Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant."

Every human being will give an ac-

count to God. (Romans 14:12) By virtue of agreeing with and pledging myself to the previous paragraph, I am also acknowledging my accountability to my fellow believer. My fingers type these words, my spirit prays, my brain thinks, and my nerves react cooperatively. Cooperation and association are necessary to lead a normal life. This is especially true in the life of the body of Christ.

Considering these thoughts, greater accountability among ministers, deacons, church leaders, and congregations should be a practice that we would welcome and encourage. "Did you take your medicine" is a question we might hear quite often. We don't



take offense at the question because we know the other person's intent is for our own well-being. Could we not apply the same principle if someone were to ask a minister, deacon, or congregation to give an accounting of their ministry? Motivated by the right spirit and attitude, asking a few hard questions would be spiritually healthy and good stewardship. "You are an able-bodied ordained minister. Why aren't you pastoring?" "Your church reports zero baptisms this year and a decline in attendance. How can we help you?"

An independent spirit would immediately pull out the autonomy card and be offended by such questions and consider them no one's business and invasive.

A minister or congregation that understands that true autonomy voluntarily submits and welcomes constructive accountability will mature and grow by contemplating and answering such difficult questions.

It is very difficult to ask invasive and personal questions. A relationship must exist between the persons involved. A genuine love and desire to support each other is foundational. The body of Christ is to be more than a group of individuals or congregations that meet and then go their separate ways, each to fend for themselves.

What might God be able to do among Free Will Baptists if we increased our expectations of ministers fulfilling the calling they professed when they were ordained? As we adapt our association meetings to be engaging times of instruction, prayer, confession, and edification, could we also expect ministers and congregations to be more accountable to attend?

An unaccountable leader will have an unaccountable congregation. An unaccountable congregation will be a part of an unaccountable association. An unaccountable association will be a part of an unaccountable denomination. An unaccountable denomination becomes nothing because of no accountability. My fellow minister, it is time to rise up as men of God and hold each other accountable. The minister sets the example by first making himself accountable to others.





from the Missions Director, Steve Reeves



# Journey in the Jungle

AN UPDATE FROM ADAM & CAROL DUNCAN

I (Adam) have said for years that God never wastes an experience. That was driven home to me this month as we traveled with the Centro de Salud (CdS) to the Mira Flores community. If you look at a map this doesn't seem like a big endeavor. After all, Mira Flores is less than 7 km from the CdS. After an hour of driving, I have a different opinion about distance and an appreciation for 4-wheel drive. The first thing I learned on this trip was that one of the best surfaces for driving is volcanic flow. It is smooth, stable, and solid. Right up until it starts raining, then you can add another "s"- SLICK. We arrived at the Mira Flores community with the plan of seeing 30 patients. We had a doctor, nurse, dentist, and TAP (community workers and Kichwa translators) on our team, along with Carol and I. We even had a patient list, stating the names and ages of the patients, a rare luxury!

When we arrived, we met Ligia. Our clinic would be set up in her house. The bottom floor is devoted to a granary, kitchen area and a bathroom complete with flushable toilet (another luxury) and the second floor holds the living quarters for Ligia, one of her sons and her granddaughter. The rain that let me learn the final characteristic of volcanic rock (remember SLICK?) continued and 30 planned patients turned into 7 actual patients who were "trapped" by heavy rain. One of my challenges on these trips is to know what my role should be. I am not really a medical professional, any triage and treatment skills I may have are better handled by other team members (emergencies tend not to happen at clinics). My language skills are improving, but I have a hard time hearing, especially in the presence of heavy rain on a metal roof and chickens announcing their latest "production." So, I felt out of place.

Then I saw Ligia sitting in the granary shelling corn. After a quick pep talk to force myself out of the comfort zone, I crossed the room and squatted near her. I told her thank you for her hospitality and asked if I could help her. I had to repeat my offer to help because she was shocked by it (I am not sure if it was because I was an extranjerero asking or because I was a man asking), so I explained that I used to help my grandparents shell corn at their farm. Ligia gestured to a partially filled feed sack for me to sit on and just like that I was back in Maries County, Missouri in 1989, shelling corn and swapping stories like I did with Grandpa Delmar and Granny Anne. We shared our stories, me about living with my grandparents and she about her 5 kids and many grandchildren. I found out that one of our neighbors is her granddaughter. I learned about how Ligia came to trust Jesus more than 50 years ago and her disappointment that

she can't attend a church because of mobility issues and her grandchildren having no desire either to take her or attend themselves. We talked about families moving from family farms and the impact that has on relationships. We prayed for her family and for opportunities to tell other people about our faith. Eventually, the other patients decided to brave the rain and the CdS staff came and helped us. Flora, the TAP, had done this work many times, but it was first for the other 3. As a result of this I was reminded that patients are not our primary evangelism and discipleship opportunities with these clinics, the CdS staff is.

In a dozen ways, God reminded me that He doesn't waste experiences. When we trust him with all of our ways, HE will direct our path (Proverbs 3:5-6). Discipleship isn't only about evangelism, sometimes it's about finding common ground and shared experiences where you least expect them. Sometimes, learning from and being an encouragement for an older brother or sister in Christ is the best part of discipleship. And often when you take the time to sit down and help someone with their work, you are the one who is blessed by their story. My encouragement for you is to find the Ligia near you. I know there is one. Maybe it's a family member, neighbor, co-worker, or church member who you haven't seen in a while. Show up and ask to share a cup of coffee and tell a story or two. Maybe you'll learn a skill you didn't know you needed (That's how I learned to cross stitch, embroider, and decorate leather-Thanks Uncle Leroy and Kenneth) Maybe you'll feel connected to a loved one who you have lost (Ligia really was a cross between my Granny Anne and her Aunt Mae). Who is it who is marginalized, isolated, feeling like they have little to offer, yet filled with the love of the Lord and a lifetime of experiences that you can learn from? Where can you be an encourager? Most of the time you will leave encouraged. I really believe that this is part of "being with the widows and orphans in their distress" (James 1:27).







MMB

SHOW ME plan

updates

## - STATE -

**Grace Fellowship (Cape Girardeau):** The Church had a great spring with good attendance and growth. One person came to know the Lord and they had 2 baptisms!

**Mosaic (Rolla):** Faron and Josh are developing a tentmaker missions program with several of their Missouri S&T students involved. Please continue to pray for God to provide them a much needed and larger meeting space.

**Restore (Potosi):** Rob and the church had a good spring. They have some new families attending. They continue to reach out to their community.

**Bradley Mercer (University of Missouri):** Bradley graduated from Welch College in May. He is raising support this summer with the intention of being in Columbia for the fall semester.

**Matt and Justine Fleming (Freedom Point, Florissant):** The Flemmings continue to reach out to their community and prepare for September 17, the first public worship service of Freedom Point Church. Pray for God's blessings as they get closer.

**Women's Ministry:** This year's Women's Mission Celebration Service was held June 6 at the State Meeting in Springfield. Bradley Mercer was the speaker.

## - International -

**Baileys (Japan):** Recently baptized a lady from their church. The congregation at KFC is growing.

**Speer (Japan):** Daniel and Kate and family are settling into their new home in Saporro and are meeting and building relationships with their neighbors.

**Turnbough (Spain):** Turnbough (Spain): The Villalba Church continues to do well and is reaching new people. Pray for a greater witness to their community.

**Duncan (Ecuador):** Adam, Carol and family are busy these days in outreach and medical clinics. They are about to enter the busy season of groups coming from the states on missions trips.

**Provow (Bulgaria):** Josh is super busy these days working in Shumen, Novi Pazar, and Kaspichan. God continues to open doors for the Gospel. Pray for more workers to go to Bulgaria.

## - North American -

**Webster/Mitchener (Florida):** Connect Church held the first public service of the new congregation with 60 present. Their 3rd service was on May 21 with 42 in attendance, nine new faces and a salvation!

**Garrett (Illinois):** Adam is presently serving a deployment in the military. Please pray for him and for Rebecca and the children while he is away. Pray for the continued growth of Bridge Church.

**Schmidt (New Mexico):** North American Ministries voted to close the work in Albuquerque and transfer the Schmidts to the Phoenix suburb of Casa Grande, AZ.

## - Chaplains -

**Captain Michael Beatty:** Mike had the privilege of preaching at the post church on Easter. He also baptized six soldiers.

**Captain David Dodson:** Pray for David and his family as he continues to work with Green Berets and their families.

**Major Kevin Trimble:** Kevin and Darla have been restationed to North Carolina. While Kevin was pastor of the post church in California it grew from 35-350 in attendance.

**Medical Chaplain Cody Alley:** Continue to lift Cody up in prayer as he works and ministers to the patients and staff at Mercy Hospital in Lebanon.



## Farmington 1st

Farmington 1st held a footwashing service on April 5th.



## Cuba

Pastor Don Martin baptised Judy Brenner and Nick Weber on Sunday April 16, 2023.



## Lebanon Greenhills



Dominic, James and Amilea Owens were recently baptised by pastor, Ken Reiter.

## Cornerstone

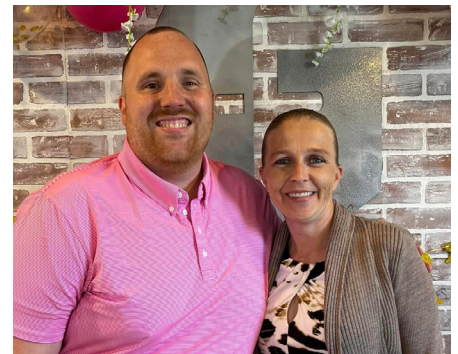
Cornerstone FWB Church in Mountain Grove held a baptism service on Sunday, May 7th where Bro. Justin Lawson baptised Shyla Simpson after she made a decision to follow Christ as her Savior.



## Grace Fellowship

Pastor Ray Paxton baptised Travis Rhodes on Sunday, April 18th at the church in Cape Girardeau, MO.

On May 14th Ashly Sturm was baptised by Pastor Ray.







## Bailey

On April 23 Pastor Darrell Strain baptised 8 at the church in Alton. Pictured left-right - front: Martha Buckner, Asa Pointer, Crayton Wilkerson, Bristol Wilkerson, Gabbie Bandy (Pastor Darrell's granddaughter), Breeze Simmons, Adeline Pointer. Back row: Pastor Darrell, Brenda Bettis.

## Ozark Family

Pastor Gary Mitchener recently baptised three at Ozark Family Church.

Pictured left to right: Jason Schaffer, Camille Diamond, Khallen Diamond



## Calvary Chapel

Doug Earls baptised Shay Lewis on April 30th at the church in Buffalo, MO.

On Mother's Day, May 14th pastor Brandon Mankey baptised Lisa Kurtz and her three children - all baptised on the same day!

Pictured left to right:  
top row: Shay Lewis, Lisa Kurtz, Bradley Meade  
Bottom row: Leah Frazier, Lexee Frazier

Mayson Greer was baptised June 4th



The Church News section is continued on page 16.





# "Resolved"



The MOFWB State Convention was encouraging, worshipful, and instructive. Pastors Aaron Pontious and Roger Hogan preached convicting and soul-stirring sermons, with IM Director Clint Morgan finishing the convention with a very challenging message for us to minister together in unity, not allowing secondary or tertiary issues or preferences to divide us. Listeners were strongly challenged to be witnesses, soul winners, salt, and light in our daily lives with one being denied.

Tuesday's workshops were well attended. Topics dealt with were, "A Serious Approach to Ordination and Licensure to the Ministry," "Helping Storm Tossed Families," and "How to Have Healthy Associations of Churches."

Voting delegates approved all state ministry board reports and budgets, and took action on six recommendations from the General Board.

The resulting decisions were:

1. To adopt a 2024 MO COOP budget of \$900,000.00.
2. To do an annual internal audit of the financial records of the CE, Youth Ministry, and Retiree Boards.
3. That FWB International Missionaries who reside in Missouri during their stateside assignment will be included in the MOFWB Retirement plan for the year they are stateside.

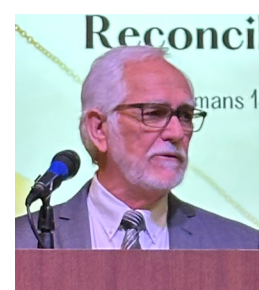
4. To approve the Missouri State FWB Ordination Manual and strongly encourage its implementation in all district associations.

5. To agree that the Niangua Camp be allowed to sell an unused and undeveloped portion of land at fair market value. Proceeds will be applied to the camp's indebtedness.

6. To deny the removal of By-Law #66 as part of the MOFWB Bylaws.

Zuri Zuñiga (Grace FWB, Arnold) did a great job of preparing the worship in music, along with his brother Zea and various musicians from the Hartville FWB Church.

Praise God for a very positive and uplifting convention.







## Women's Ministry Celebration

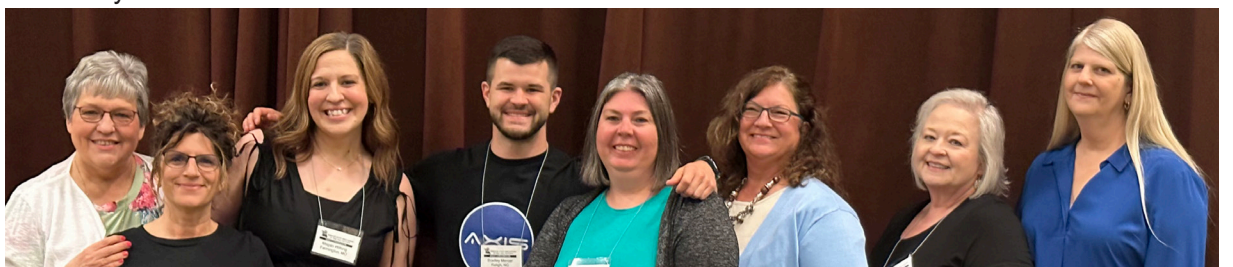
Tuesday's State Convention Celebration Service was just that – a Celebration of God's Goodness and Blessings! After hearing exciting reports from Missouri Missions Board, Missouri Women's Minis-

try, and WNAC, a truly Spirit-filled service was enjoyed by the 108 worshippers who were gathered together in one accord, agreeing that God is great!

Bro. David Beltz led the service reminding us of God's great blessings. Bro. Bob Thebeau led worship in song, starting with Fanny Crosby's hymn, "My Savior First of All," and followed with "What a Day That Will Be."

Bro. Bradley Mercer, new IM appointee, commissioned to share the gospel at University of Missouri Columbia then told us about plans to witness to students at the university, who represent at least thirty countries around the world. He gave a stirring message about God's Plan of Salvation and our role as Christians commissioned to "go into all the world, preaching, teaching, and sharing Jesus' sacrifice. "There is no Plan B. God's plan of Jesus coming to earth, preaching and teaching, then dying on a cross for our sins, and three days later rising up from death to life is the **ONLY PLAN!**"

The Celebration Service ended with a renewed challenge to spread the gospel to others. All who attended were truly blessed to have been there!





# From Our Boards

## Christian Education

### THE POWER OF THE WORD

We all know that words have power. No matter what schoolyard rhymes tell us, words can hurt us...often more than sticks and stones. Words can also encourage us, move us, shape us, define us, and lead us. Therefore we must learn to listen to the right words. The word "Word" in our English Bibles is most often translated from the Greek words "logos" or "rhema", both of which refer to the broad wealth of spoken and written words of God Himself. They also allude to the deep, defining principles that God has established through His creation and His revelation to mankind. They are the blueprint for everything. They are the final authority on truth and morality. Yet they are also the intimate, personal voice of a Father to His children. As the disciple Peter once put it, "Lord, where else shall we go? You have the words of life!" (John 6:68). This whole year, our church (Calvary Chapel FWB; Buffalo) is putting a special emphasis on the power of God's Word. To do that we are doing something radical - we are reading the Bible! We have challenged our church to engage with God's Word by reading from the Bible five days a week and memorizing one Scripture a week for fifty-

two weeks. We have particularly suggested they read through Foundations: A 260-Day Bible Reading Plan for Busy Believers by Robby and Kandi Gallaty. This reading plan takes you through the majority of the Old and New Testament writings, which gives you a good overview of the entirety of the Bible. This book can be purchased through most book sellers, or you can find the plan for free on the YouVersion Bible App. As we have engaged with the power of God's Word, an amazing thing has started to happen - people are hearing from God. They are finding encouragement, challenge, and direction. It is raising questions and they are discussing the Bible with their family, friends, coworkers, and pastors. God's word is working powerfully to change people's lives. The apostle Paul encouraged the church at Colossae in this way: "Let the Word of Christ dwell richly among you" Let us take that encouragement to heart. Let us learn to live in the power of God's Word.



~ Mark Elliott  
MO FWB  
CE Board,  
Chairman

## 2023 MO Women's Ministry Retreat September 22-23 Westgate Branson Woods Resort

FREE *indeed*  
*John 8:36*

Registration forms,  
online registration &  
more information at  
[MOFWB.COM](http://MOFWB.COM)

Speaker: Gayle Haas  
[storiescomealive.org](http://storiescomealive.org)

"A Visit with Corrie ten Boom"  
a Dutch Holocaust survivor  
who helped Jews escape the  
Nazis during World War II.

\$50 registration fee + room



# MINISTERS' WIVES' RETREAT



As children, we probably all sang the song “He’s Still Working on Me.” If we were honest, we would readily admit that we are still a work in progress. To those in ministry, “building people” and “building churches” are phrases we may use frequently. So, the question is: How do we build as we should, with purpose and the way God designed? These were some of the questions answered at our 2023 Pastor’s Wives’ Retreat as pastor’s wife, Fawn (Gwartney) Gibson, from Arkansas shared her heart with us.

Woven with beautiful times of worship, each woman was challenged to “build” with integrity and on the proper foundation. On Friday night, Casey (Gwartney) Pontious helped us build community as we shared in a roundtable type of discussion regarding the ups and downs of ministry. We laughed, we cried, and were reminded that we’re not in this alone. Games, crafts, and food were all centered on the theme, and the relaxed atmosphere was enjoyable.

With times of refreshment, fellowship, encouragement, and worship built into the weekend, we believe that each ministry wife who attended received just what she needed to continue in their own “building” process, whether in their personal life or ministry. What a fantastic getaway in a beautiful setting with God’s people and God’s message for each one of us!



**NOTE: The Ministers’ Wives’ Retreat is sponsored in part by the Christian Education Board.**





# Celebrating

# 75 YEARS

This year marks the seventy-fifth year since the inception of the Missouri Mission Board. Missouri has been a hallmark for Free Will Baptist missions throughout our history. Men and women have cast a vision for Kingdom work that has culminated in thousands being saved, churches being started and a vibrant mission ministry in place today because of following that vision and building upon it. Prior to the creation of the mission board as we know it today, the first Missouri State Mission President was Lizzie McAdams. She received ten dollars honorarium salary for the year. Total receipts of the first year were \$37.34 in 1934. In 2022, Missouri Missions received \$590,000. God has truly blessed Missouri's mission program.

As churches began to start at a rapid pace in the 1940s into the 1950s, Missouri Free Will Baptists voted in the 1948 session to create the State Home Mission Board that worked in correlation with the State Executive Committee. In the 1950s it was encouraged that each church and district association would have mission directors.

Ministry increased dramatically with churches starting from evangelistic revivals. Men received a burden and were led of God to start a church in a community. In 1960 the State Home Mission Board was officially formed apart from the Executive Committee, due primarily to the sheer work load of keeping up with ministry oversight and demand. The first members were Clarence Burton, W.H. Bostic, Tommy Day, James McAllister and Lester Jones.

In the 75 year period from 1948 to present day, seventy churches have been started or assisted in their start. Forty are still ministering with twelve that have ceased to be in ministry after more than twenty-five years. As of today, that is nearly a 75% retention rate.

Those twelve mission churches that have closed after a twenty-five year ministry used their resources to benefit and bless other works and ministry in most cases.

The Perpetual Loan Fund was established. It began with two thousand dollars. Today there is over three quarters of a million dollars in the fund. Harry Beatty and Cliff Bowman

were pioneers in this effort.

God has placed five men in the leadership role as Mission Director for Missouri Missions. It began with Mark Lewis continuing with Lester Jones and Dale Skiles. Each of these men possessed tremendous gifts to minister, lead and cast a vision for the Missouri Missions leading to a dramatic decision as we approached a new millennium.

After the beginning of the 21st century, the Lord opened the door of ministry and resources to secure a full time Missions Director by God calling Frank Webster to the position. During his tenure the Show Me Plan accelerated with mission giving reaching heights to provide for missionaries in a way for them to focus on the ministry in the field. The mission board grew from its five member board to a nine member board. Each segment of missions is overseen by three board members giving attention to International, National Home and State Missions. In 2021 Steve Reeves was called by God as Missouri's fifth and current Mission Director. Steve and Linda Reeves served as missionaries to Spain and in Columbia Missouri. His giftedness in understanding the heart of missionaries and the heartbeat of the missions program has been a tremendous blessing to Missouri and our entire denomination.

As we are in the second decade of the 21st century, the future is filled with great opportunities, challenges and hopefulness. The godly men who have served on the mission board for the last seventy-five years have prayed, at times agonized, and have praised God for the ministry entrusted to their stewardship. What began as raising funds through the sale of the "Mission Song Book" has led to His blessing of millions of dollars through the decades. More importantly, and above all, many souls that have been saved through our mission works. We give praise unto the Lord from whom all blessings flow. We are thankful as a state and as a denomination for the Missouri Mission Board and their work.

~ Rev. Keith Garrison, Historical Commission

The MOFWB archive room has many old photos and records for your perusal. Drop by and visit the archive.





## Celebration Service

On Tuesday evening of the 110th MOFWB State Convention, the Missouri FWB Mission Board celebrated 75 years as a state board. Bro. Keith Garrison read a short history of the Mission Board (MMB). Current Director Steve Reeves honored Bro. Dale Skiles, the first MMB Director with a certificate. Brother Jim McAllister who was unable to attend the service, served on the original MM board. Bro. Frank Webster served as MMB Director from 2007-2021.

### A Letter of Gratitude Missouri Mission Board

Thank you so much for honoring me with a nice plaque & gift cards at the State Association. It has truly been my pleasure, joy, and honor to serve the MOFWB Association over the years. The people I served, and served with were people of faith, devotion and love. They are the finest people in Missouri. Again, Thank you for the honor I've had to serve. I only hope and pray that I have served you and my Lord well.

~ Dale Skiles



Rev. Gary Mitchener was honored for 30 years service with the MMB, seven as a church planter and 23 as board member. Steve asked all those who had been part of MO Missions over the years to stand and be recognized. All across the room, former and current MO missionaries and board members stood for a round of applause. Following the service, a reception was held. Those in attendance enjoyed cupcakes iced in Mission Board colors, teal and orange.







# Ministry Gems

## News Tidbits from Around the State



**QR Codes** - We will begin using more QR codes throughout the GEM Magazine for quick access to registrations, websites, etc. Simply scan the code using the camera on your smart phone, a link will appear, then touch the link and it will open in your phone's browser.



**First FWB Church, DeSoto** - On April 30th, First FWB of DeSoto held an installation service for their newly hired pastor, Tim Hackett and his wife Pam. The service and a consecration prayer was lead by Bro. Stan Bunch. The church family is excited to see what God has in store for them!

**Welch College** conferred degrees on 75 students. Commencement exercises were held on Friday morning, May 5. Congratulations to Lanae Marie Miller of Park Hills, MO for graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in child development and learning.

*"We don't just recruit people to come to church on the weekend. We compel people to become active participants in the most incredible mission this world has ever known—the proclamation of the glory of God to the ends of the earth. Why do we exist? The only way it matters is if our life's mission is bringing glory to God."*

*The prophet Isaiah records clear words from God about his glory: "I have made them for my glory. It was I who created them" (Isaiah 43:7, NLT). You were made for this. Made to be saved. Redeemed to be sent. Sent for the glory of God. Dig into the grit of ministry and find God's glory. Rely on the Holy Spirit over personal charm. Depend on prayer over strategy. Give up self-reliance and become powerless for the name of Christ. You may never be recognized for your work. You may go decades before someone thanks you for your ministry." ~ Sam Rainer*



Roger and Ionia Phillips, lifelong members of the Verdella FWB Church in Liberal, Mo. were strong supporters of the Niangua Youth Camp. On several occasions, Roger would call me and inquire about the projects and finances of the camp. He made sure that the Verdella church was informed and supportive of the camp.

At Ionia's memorial service, several people mentioned that she took them to camp, was their sponsor, and encouraged them to attend camp. It would not be an exaggeration to say that dozens of students were led to faith in Christ because of the influence of Roger and Ionia Phillips, and Niangua Camp. Their request to their children was that upon departing for heaven that all memorials, gifts, and flower purchases be directed to the Niangua Youth Camp. Several thousand dollars have been donated to a ministry that will impact lives until Jesus returns. Roger and Ionia, and their family have left us an example and a challenge. It would be wonderful to instruct our loved ones now, that when we are taken to heaven, we request that in lieu of flowers that wilt and memorials that are forgotten, we ask for memorial donations to be given to the Niangua Youth Camp or Missouri Missions. Thank you Roger & Ionia Phillips, and family for a very positive example to follow. ~SB

### MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS



HANDBOOK  
Version 1.1  
2023

The Missouri Free Will Baptist Handbook is now available in booklet form. This booklet provides a brief explanation of the various ministries and functions of our association of churches. We will be distributing them to the churches this fall along with the Digest of Reports and Proceedings of the 2023 State Convention. If you prefer to receive copies prior to this fall please contact the MOFWB State Executive Office and we will

be glad to send you the quantity desired. All you will be asked to pay is the shipping cost. 417-532-6537 or [carrie@mofwb.org](mailto:carrie@mofwb.org)



# evangelism mo f w b conference

August 25-26 at Camp Niangua

The conference will begin with dinner at 5:00pm Friday evening. The first session will start at 6:45. Two additional 45 minute breakout sessions will follow. Breakfast Saturday morning will be at 7:00am with four sessions to follow. The conference will end by noon on Saturday.

## Speakers and Topics include:

- Will Harmon - Why Evangelize & Passion for Evangelism
- Larry Lacefield - Soul Winning & Evangelism as Church DNA
- Aaron Pontious - Messy Church
- John Weaver - Prayer & Fasting
- Chris Davenport - Being a Bridge in Your Community



**EVERYONE** is invited to attend this **FREE** conference!

For more information email [stan@mofwb.org](mailto:stan@mofwb.org) or call 1-866-532-6537

**REGISTER ONLINE AT MOFWB.COM or**



## Retreat Schedule

### Friday

5:00 Dinner  
6:00 - 6:30 Prayer  
6:45 - 7:30 Will Harmon - Why Evangelize  
7:45 - 8:30 Larry Lacefield - Soul Winning  
8:45 - 9:30 Breakout Sessions (by groups)

### Saturday

7:00 Breakfast  
8:00 - 8:45 Breakout Sessions (by groups)  
9:00 - 9:45 Larry Lacefield - Evangelism as Church DNA  
10:00 - 10:45 Breakout Sessions (by groups)  
11:00 - 11:45 Will Harmon - Passion for Evangelism

Breakout Sessions ➤ Messy Church, Prayer & Fasting and Being a Bridge in Your Community

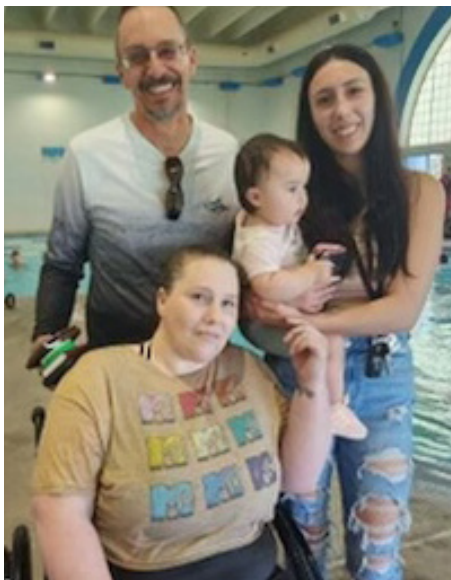
## Don't Forget....

Overnight lodging will be provided in the camp dorms. Please bring bedding and toiletries with you.

## Sponsored by...







## Neosho

Kels Bowen was baptised by Pastor Barry Reel on Saturday, May 13, 2023.



The pre-schoolers took up an offering during services each week in March. They collected a total of \$500 for missions.



## Lebanon 1st

Jayme Moore was baptised Wednesday, May 31 by pastor Andy Rains.



## Calvary Fellowship

John Vessa, Jr. was baptised on Mother's Day, May 14, 2023 by pastor Ken Simpson. John is 8 years old and loves Jesus!



Elevate | Equip | Encourage

# SAVE THE DATE!!!

NOVEMBER 4 AT HARTVILLE FWB CHURCH!

MORE INFORMATION COMING ON THE MISSOURI FWB YOUTH MINISTRIES FACEBOOK PAGE.

Fall  
Retreat



SPEAKER: JON FORREST

FALL RETREAT

SIH SSIM I. NOO





# Missouri Free Will Baptist 2023 State Calendar

July 10-14	Pre-Teen Camp at Camp Niangua, Session 2
July 16-19	NAFWB Convention & National Youth Conference, Raleigh, North Carolina
August 12	CO-ED 2 Person Scramble - Sullivan Golf Course, Sullivan, MO ←
August 25-26	Evangelism Conference - Camp Niangua
September 22-23	MOFWB Women's Ministry Retreat - Westgate Branson Woods Resort
October 23-25	Retiree Retreat - Lodge of the Ozarks, Branson, MO
November 4	E3 Conference - First FWB Church, Hartville, MO
November 6	General Board Meeting - State Office, Lebanon, MO

**All events & additional information, as it becomes available, can be found at [mofwb.com](http://mofwb.com)**

**MISSIONS FUNDRAISER**



**August 12th**  
**Sullivan Golf Course**  
**8:00 Sign in • 9:00 Start**

**2 PERSON SCRAMBLE**  
**(bring your own partner)**

**\$100/player • Mulligans \$5 each**  
**(fee includes greens, gold cart & lunch)**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE July 31**

**[mofwb.com/ calendar-events](http://mofwb.com/calendar-events) or**  
**contact Leroy Bryant 636-744-6565**  
**or [pastorleroyb@gmail.com](mailto:pastorleroyb@gmail.com)**



# Financial Report

Please note: The amounts listed are for two months,  
April-May, 2023

## COOP Disbursements

### April-May, 2023

19% MO Missions.....	\$29,361.16
21.5% Gen/Exec.....	\$33,224.47
8.5% Youth Camp.....	\$13,135.26
2% Youth Ministry.....	\$3,090.65
2% Christian Education ..	\$3,090.65
2% Retiree Minsity.....	<b>\$3,090.65</b>
9% State Retirement ...	\$13,907.92
3% Show-Me.....	\$4,635.97
33% Nat'l Ministries.....	\$45,279.09
Randall U (.1121).....	\$5,716.62
<b>Total Disbursed.....</b>	<b>\$154,532.44</b>

## RECEIPTS

### COOP

Alton.....	\$200.00
Amity.....	\$270.30
Aulsbury Chapel.....	\$776.44
Bailey.....	\$1,514.00
Bailey Chapel.....	\$235.00
Belton.....	\$984.04
Bethel- Marshfield.....	\$1,435.87
Black Oak.....	\$1,596.89
Byrd.....	\$858.03
Calvary Chapel.....	\$8,445.36
Christ Chapel.....	\$2,125.00
Copper Mines.....	\$2,762.38
Cornerstone.....	\$485.29
Cross Roads- Lebanon	\$1,625.00
Cuba.....	\$1,442.00
De Soto 1st.....	\$4,786.00
Faith- Fair Grove.....	\$298.30
Faith Chapel.....	\$1,526.72
Farmington 1st.....	\$7,155.76
Fellowship.....	\$3,915.00
First Day.....	\$1,984.31
Fredericktown 1st.....	\$1,565.00
Freeman Chapel.....	\$721.00
Generations.....	\$529.84
Good News.....	\$689.40
Gospel Light.....	\$800.00
Grace.....	\$3,632.49
Grace Fellowship.....	\$2,400.00
Grace Pointe.....	\$1,075.00
Grant Avenue.....	\$853.63
Hannon.....	\$2,162.00
Hartville.....	\$3,965.00
Hazel Creek.....	\$3,315.15
Hopewell.....	\$1,561.00
Houston 1st.....	\$2,339.90
Hurryville.....	\$1,057.00
Koshkonong.....	\$610.06
Leadington.....	\$2,137.00
Lebanon 1st.....	\$5,628.10
Lebanon Green Hills.....	\$842.28
Liberty.....	\$1,200.00
Liberty - Gatewood.....	\$90.50
Marshfield.....	\$325.00
Mill Creek.....	\$614.87
Monett 1st.....	\$816.50
Mosaic.....	\$2,263.74
Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$2,619.30
Mt. Pisgah.....	\$1,060.00
Neosho 1st.....	\$1,877.00
Nevada.....	\$1,890.60
New Hope.....	\$1,422.17
New Life- Licking.....	\$1,209.80
Number One.....	\$50.00
O'Fallon 1st.....	\$4,326.68
Oak Grove- Mtn. Grove ..	\$571.43

Oak Hill.....	\$550.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$10,959.36
Ozark 1st - Heritage.....	\$800.43
Park Hills 1st.....	\$2,052.94
Parkview.....	\$770.00
Pleasant Home.....	\$378.10
Pleasant Ridge- Urbana ..	\$410.00
Purdy 1st.....	\$2,000.00
Republic.....	\$1,078.78
Resolve.....	\$300.00
Restore.....	\$502.00
Richwoods 1st.....	\$1,150.00
Rock Chapel.....	\$1,873.47
Safe Harbor.....	\$225.00
Seymour.....	\$1,876.00
Smyrna.....	\$232.00
Springfield 1st.....	\$2,330.00
Stockton.....	\$354.20
Stonebridge.....	\$785.84
Thayer.....	\$3,423.00
Trinity.....	\$1,684.70
Twin Oak.....	\$2,807.82
Union.....	\$60.00
Union Light.....	\$528.00
Unity.....	\$1,210.00
Verdella.....	\$1,684.83
Victory- Alton.....	\$2,705.70
Victory- KC.....	\$1,803.90
Waynesville 1st.....	\$1,487.20
West Plains 1st.....	\$3,400.00
Wilderness.....	\$819.49
Willow Springs.....	\$912.55
Wolf Creek.....	\$2,734.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$154,532.44</b>

### Show-Me Plan

Aulsbury Chapel.....	\$90.00
Belton.....	\$350.00
Black Oak.....	\$360.00
Brent Emmerson.....	\$50.00
Bruce Moore.....	\$200.00
Byrd.....	\$50.00
Calvary Chapel.....	\$90.00
Cheryl Bell.....	\$96.64
Cleo Reeder.....	\$30.00
Copper Mines.....	\$300.00
Cross Roads- Lebanon.....	\$180.00
Cuba.....	\$236.80
De Soto 1st.....	\$1,669.26
Farmington 1st.....	\$1,390.00
Farmington 1st- WAC.....	\$100.00
Fellowship.....	\$1,070.00
First Day.....	\$992.15
Frank Webster.....	\$60.00
Fredericktown 1st.....	\$310.00
Freeman Chapel.....	\$720.00
Gary Tune.....	\$96.64
Generations.....	\$151.54
Gospel Light.....	\$1,800.00
Grace.....	\$1,027.00
Grant Avenue.....	\$25.00
Hannon.....	\$1,000.00
Happy Hill.....	\$180.00
Hartville.....	\$350.00
Hopewell WAC.....	\$25.00
Jason Sander.....	\$23.79
Jerry Rader.....	\$40.00
Josh Provow.....	\$50.00
Leadington.....	\$400.00
Lebanon 1st.....	\$445.00
Lebanon 1st Women.....	\$400.00
Lebanon Green Hills.....	\$252.68
Macedonia - Purdy.....	\$13,000.00
Mill Creek.....	\$140.00
MOFWB COOP.....	\$4,635.97
Mosaic.....	\$50.00

Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$555.00
Mt. Pisgah.....	\$163.00
Mt. Pisgah WAC.....	\$50.00
Mt. Zion- "Cuba".....	\$80.00
Myrtle.....	\$100.00
Nathan Ruble.....	\$500.00
Neosho 1st.....	\$500.00
New Hope.....	\$400.00
New Life- Licking.....	\$262.00
Number One.....	\$120.00
O'Fallon 1st.....	\$3,847.98
Oak Grove- Mtn. Grove ..	\$325.00
Oak Hill.....	\$42.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$575.00
Ozark 1st - Heritage.....	\$300.00
Park Hills 1st.....	\$207.50
Pleasant Grove- Anderson	\$300.00
Pleasant Home.....	\$400.00
Pleasant Ridge- Urbana ..	\$140.00
Purdy 1st.....	\$900.00
Republic.....	\$155.00
Resolve.....	\$1,100.00
RHP Commission.....	\$87.04
Richwoods 1st.....	\$296.34
Rock Chapel.....	\$400.00
Rodney Bunton.....	\$1,000.00
Southeast Association.....	\$120.00
Springfield 1st.....	\$750.00
Stockton.....	\$160.00
Stockton Auxiliary.....	\$90.00
Stonebridge.....	\$60.00
Thayer.....	\$1,389.00
Trinity.....	\$135.00
Trinity- Cabool.....	\$2,500.00
Trisa Johnson.....	\$23.79
Twin Oak Auxiliary.....	\$110.00
Union.....	\$45.00
Union Light.....	\$1,050.00
Unity.....	\$490.00
Verdella.....	\$1,684.83
Victory- KC.....	\$670.58
Virginia Bunton.....	\$600.00
Waynesville 1st.....	\$926.00
West Plains 1st WNAC.....	\$75.00
Willow Springs.....	\$234.00
Wolf Creek.....	\$600.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$56,956.53</b>

### Missouri Missions

Alden Redfield.....	\$50.00
Calvary Fellowship.....	\$1,200.00
Cuba.....	\$88.80
De Soto 1st.....	\$675.00
Devena Harwick.....	\$250.00
Farmington 1st.....	\$10.00
Grace Fellowship.....	\$250.00
Hannon.....	\$100.00
Howard Easley.....	\$120.00
Judith Lemons.....	\$23.79
Loretta Minney.....	\$25.00
Mosaic.....	\$2,700.00
Mt. Pisgah WAC.....	\$40.00
Oliver Adamson.....	\$60.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$20.00
Ozark 1st - Heritage.....	\$200.00
Pleasant Ridge- Urbana ..	\$50.00
Republic.....	\$50.00
Restore.....	\$200.00
RHP COMMISSION.....	\$551.28
Ryan Akers.....	\$50.00
Scott Keith.....	\$50.00
Seth Moon.....	\$120.00
Thayer.....	\$50.00
William Moore.....	\$25.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$6,958.87</b>

## North American Missions

Bailey.....	\$200.00
Belton.....	\$295.41
Carrie Myers.....	\$25.00
Copper Mines.....	\$200.00
Cuba.....	\$88.80
De Soto 1st.....	\$850.00
De Soto 1st Joy Makers ..	\$25.00
Grace.....	\$40.00
Greater Springfield Assn	\$1,160.00
Hartville.....	\$100.00
Houston 1st.....	\$100.00
Lebanon 1st.....	\$200.00
Loretta Minney.....	\$25.00
Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$70.00
Mt. Pisgah.....	\$100.00
Neosho 1st.....	\$20.00
New Hope.....	\$100.00
New Testament.....	\$20.00
O'Fallon 1st.....	\$120.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$1,425.00
Park Hills 1st.....	\$100.00
Rock Chapel.....	\$301.00
Southeast Association.....	\$90.00
Stockton.....	\$70.00
Trinity.....	\$130.00
Twin Oak Auxiliary.....	\$70.00
Union Light.....	\$255.00
Union Light WAC.....	\$50.00
Waynesville 1st.....	\$220.00
West Plains 1st.....	\$115.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$6,565.21</b>

## International Missions

Black Oak.....	\$200.00
Bruce Moore.....	\$160.00
Central.....	\$1,105.00
Christ Chapel.....	\$45.00
Copper Mines.....	\$750.00
Cuba.....	\$177.60
De Soto 1st.....	\$1,040.00
Farmington 1st.....	\$100.00
Fellowship.....	\$1,550.00
Fredericktown 1st.....	\$500.00
Freida Hays.....	\$25.00
Generations.....	\$111.54
Gospel Light.....	\$1,030.00
Grace.....	\$750.00
Hartville.....	\$1,550.00
Hopewell WAC.....	\$100.00
Houston 1st.....	\$996.00
Jones Chapel.....	\$750.00
Jones Chapel WNAC.....	\$150.00
Lebanon 1st.....	\$850.00
Mill Creek.....	\$200.00
Mill Creek- Young Adult ..	\$50.00
MO FWB Missions.....	\$1,500.00
Mosaic.....	\$280.00
Mountain Grove 1st.....	\$50.00
New Hope.....	\$200.00
Oak Hill.....	\$184.00
O'Fallon 1st.....	\$1,000.00
Ozark 1st.....	\$265.00
Ozark 1st - Heritage.....	\$100.00
Park Hills 1st.....	\$150.00
Pleasant Ridge- Urbana ..	\$100.00
Second Free Will.....	\$200.00
Southeast Association.....	\$90.00
Stockton.....	\$80.00
Thayer.....	\$25.00
Trinity.....	\$20.00
Twin Oak Auxiliary.....	\$80.00
Union Light.....	\$225.00
Union Light WAC.....	\$50.00
Verdella.....	\$2,636.97
Victory- KC.....	\$210.14



Waynesville 1st.....\$450.00  
West County Community Fellowshi  
\$90.00  
**Total .....\$20,176.25**

#### DESIGNATED

African Children's Mission .....  
Bailey.....\$240.00  
**Total .....\$240.00**

Berea Ministries.....  
Bailey.....\$140.00  
**Total .....\$140.00**

Ch-TN  
Bailey.....\$400.00  
Belton.....\$20.00  
Bruce Moore.....\$40.00  
De Soto 1st.....\$160.00  
Grace.....\$1,040.00  
Hartville.....\$100.00  
Mill Creek.....\$50.00  
Myrtle.....\$100.00  
New Hope.....\$646.63  
Parkway.....\$300.00  
Union Light.....\$236.20  
Unity.....\$300.00  
**Total .....\$3,392.83**

Young Children Home  
Thayer.....\$118.00  
**Total .....\$118.00**

Getsemani Children's Home.....  
Stockton.....\$30.00  
**Total .....\$30.00**  
MO FWB CE Board  
RHP Commission.....\$58.03  
**Total .....\$58.03**

MO FWB Retiree Board.....  
RHP Commission.....\$58.03  
**Total .....\$58.03**

MO FWB Youth Ministry Board  
RHP Commission.....\$58.03  
**Total .....\$58.03**

Randall U  
Fellowship.....\$60.00  
Mountain Grove 1st.....\$330.00  
Thayer.....\$200.00  
**Total .....\$590.00**

Rest of the Family  
Hopewell WAC.....\$50.00  
Oak Hill.....\$300.00  
**Total .....\$350.00**

Welch College  
De Soto 1st.....\$120.00  
Farmington 1st.....\$200.00  
Grace.....\$570.00  
Mountain Grove 1st.....\$330.00  
Ozark 1st.....\$80.00  
Thayer.....\$200.00  
**Total .....\$1,500.00**

WNAC  
Stockton Auxiliary.....\$10.00  
Twin Oak Auxiliary.....  
\$20.00  
Total Twin Oak Auxiliary.....\$20.00  
**Total .....\$30.00**

Youth Camp  
Cuba.....\$100.00  
De Soto 1st.....\$160.00  
Hartville.....\$100.00  
Mountain Grove 1st.....\$100.00  
Mt. Pisgah.....\$30.00  
Oak Hill.....\$42.00  
Ozark 1st.....\$20.00  
RHP Commission.....\$232.12  
Stockton Auxiliary.....\$30.00  
Thayer.....\$200.00  
Trinity.....\$34.00  
Union.....\$30.00  
West Plains 1st.....\$25.00  
Willow Springs.....\$50.00  
**Total .....\$1,153.12**

**Youth Camp Development**  
New Hope.....\$646.63  
Verdella.....\$505.45  
**Total .....\$1,152.08**

## Available for Fill-In

**Cody Alley**  
Lebanon, MO  
573-664-6945

**Rich Barker**  
Park Hills, MO  
573-664-6947

**Jack Brown**  
Kansas City, MO  
816-267-0550

**Tim Deckard**  
Alton, MO  
706-464-5956

**Ed Fields**  
Cuba, MO  
573-368-0746

**Donnie Greenwood**  
Marshfield, MO  
417-597-5808

**Danny Hill**  
Springfield, MO  
417-210-3699

**Gene Howell**  
Ozark, MO  
618-926-5000

**Scott McCully**  
Joplin, MO  
417-236-4382

**Dan Minkler**  
St. Robert, MO  
559-977-2299

**Lindell Richardson**  
Desloge, MO  
573-366-1850

**Jason Williams**  
Ozark, MO  
417-260-7078

Thank you for  
supporting  
Free Will Baptist  
ministries!!

## Available Churches

**Friendship**  
Branson, MO  
Contact: George  
Christoffersen  
417-331-3997

**Hazel Creek**  
Kirksville, MO  
Contact: Karen Sponsler  
TEXT - 660-626-3978

**Mt Zion "Cuba"**  
Grovespring, MO  
Contact: Jason Parker  
417-531-3993

**Pleasant Home**  
Mtn. Grove, MO  
Contact: Shirley Reed  
417-948-2365

**Pleasant Ridge**  
Alton, MO  
Contact: Glenn Booker  
417-270-0994

GIVE TO THE  
**WMO**

World Missions Offering

**AUG  
27**

**IMINC.ORG/WMO**



GIVE TO TAKE THE GOSPEL TO THE  
**ENDS OF THE EARTH**





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**NEW  
THIS FALL**

We are super excited to share with you the next iteration of the D6 Curriculum. D6 Everyday Foundations launching September 2023.

In a day of eroding morals and shifting values, it's important to equip people to stand for truth. D6 Everyday Foundations provides biblical exegesis, scriptural principles,

and studies of key Old and New Testament characters. This foundation of Christ and the unshakeable Word of God constructs a solid groundwork for one's faith.

D6 Everyday Foundations emphasizes a church and home focus, family alignment, a high view of Scripture, shaping a strong biblical worldview, and solid application of the unchanging Truth of God's Word. It's a three-year curriculum that covers the overview of the Old and New Testaments, emphasizing major characters and themes, as well as the application of God's Word to current cultural issues.

Is what happens at church enough? No! Even if the student never misses a single Sunday in the three-year cycle, the task is too much for curriculum alone. We must also depend on the work of the Holy Spirit and the partnership of families so the truth goes beyond head knowledge to heart knowledge and anchors in a permanent place.

With D6 Everyday Foundations, you will have more opportunities to emphasize and promote discipleship, and more starting points to welcome newcomers. It's an excellent tool for churches to equip parents with the mortar to hold together the building blocks of faith.