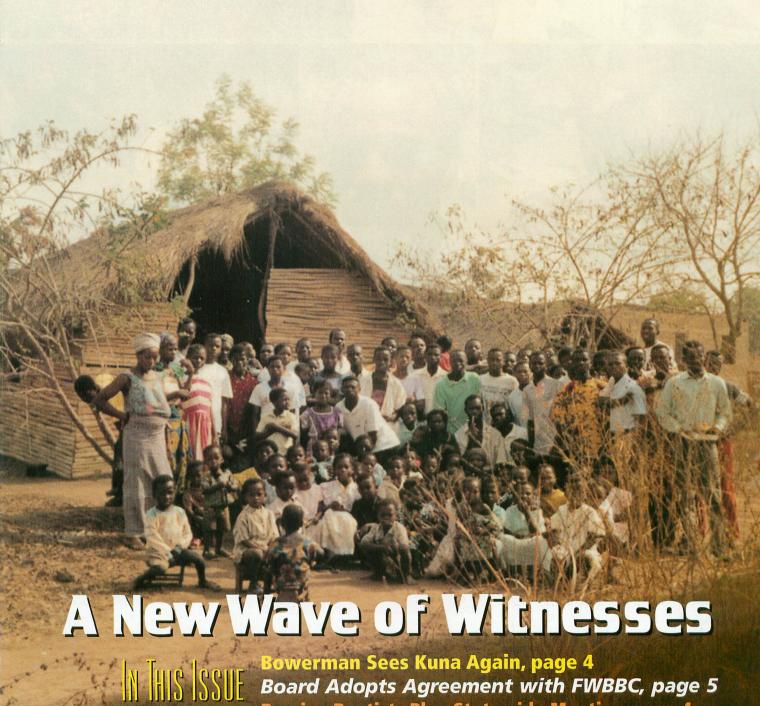
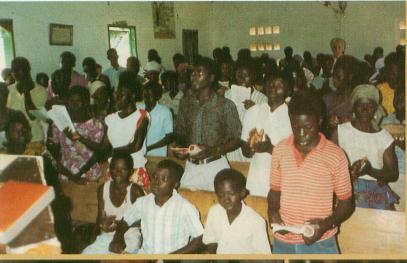


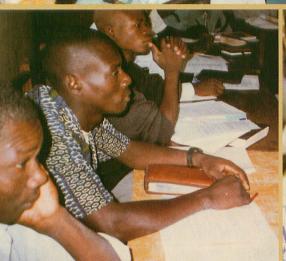
Showing God at work around the world

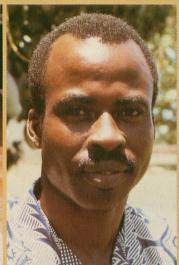


Russian Baptists Plan Statewide Meeting, page 4 Six Couples Leave for Fields, page 6











A New Wave of Witnesses

By Clint Morgan

was stunned as I sat in that Field Council meeting in December of 1984. The Free Will Baptist missionaries in Côte d'Ivoire, Africa, were gathered for our annual business meeting. The discussion centered around the painful reality that we had only two ordained pastors for more than 30 FWB churches and congregations in the country. Several "lay pastors" were filling the role of pastor.

Yes, I was stunned. But, even more, I was challenged.

The missionaries knew the church's long-term survival depended on bibli-

cally qualified leadership.
Unanimously, we voted to set up a
Bible institute to train leaders.

We had only two ordained pastors for more than 30 FWB churches and congregations in the country.

It had been 26 years since the first wave of witnesses had arrived in Côte d'Ivoire. God had handpicked them for this ministry. As they gained converts and discipled new believers, churches were established. In the early stages, leadership of these churches was provided by the missionaries. Yet, all knew that national leadership was necessary for cultural credibility and long-term stability.

Until 1984 we relied heavily on the "Paul-Timothy," one-to-one, method of training. We recognized that a Bible institute would provide intense, concentrated and accelerated training. We also knew some would be unable to attend, so we decided to develop a decentralized study program. A student

Front cover: Newly trained pastors are providing leadership for many village churches.

Opposite page, clockwise from the top: This congregation called a graduate to lead them, Clint and Lynette Morgan stand with students and their wives, students take notes, a graduate is now a pastor, and students listen to the professor.

could complete this series of studies in six years.

We built our training program on the premise that a good educational program has two fundamental elements: content and experience. The content included material to be mastered in the classroom setting. The experience was to come from putting classroom LESSONS into practice.

In October 1987 we opened the doors to the FWB Bible Institute in Bouna. Ten young men arrived on campus willing and ready to give themselves to intensive study of God's Word. Students were in class five days a week and went out each weekend to preach and teach in villages within an 85-mile radius. This continued for three years with only a few breaks along the way.

In June of 1990 we had our first graduation. Eight of those who had started received their diplomas. This was a day of great rejoicing for the missionaries, the national church, the FWB denomination and the hosts of heaven.

Two more classes have finished their studies at the institute. Ten men graduated in June of 1995 and another six received their diplomas in June of 2000. Five ladies, wives of the students, also received certificates for the program they followed. This gave us a total of 24 men and five women trained for leadership of our churches. Six of the 24 graduates have been ordained as pastors. Several more will likely be ordained in August of 2000.

Some disappointments have oc-

curred; however, many are in the Kingdom today through the witness of the men and women who have remained faithful to their calling and training.

According to journals kept by students, over 320 people were led to the Lord during their time at the institute. Of those who accepted Christ under their ministry, over 250 were baptized. Students were also instrumental in establishing several churches.

These trained servants are now laboring alongside the missionaries. One of the graduates from the first class was called to pastor three churches of approximately 90 attendees each. After four years, attendance had more than doubled in that area. These three churches had also started seven new preaching points. Realizing the new believers needed help and fellowship, the young pastor organized an "edification conference." Six hundred and thirty believers registered for those meetings.

A 1999 graduate recently became the first FWB home missionary fully supported by the National Association of FWB in Côte d'Ivoire.

One of the 1995 graduates took his first pastorate in a very remote area of the country. At that time the church was averaging about 45 attendees each Sunday. In 1999 it averaged about 145 people and now has planted three other churches in the area.

A 1999 graduate recently became the first FWB home missionary fully

supported by the National Association of FWB in Côte d'Ivoire. Their small group of seven college students has grown to over 45 adults in just a few months.

Two graduates have been chosen by the National Association of Côte d'Ivoire to study toward master's degrees in order to replace the missionary professors at the Bible institute. Two others are serving as director and assistant director of the decentralized study program. Over 85 people are following this program of study.

The president of the National Association is an institute graduate as are the presidents of the northern and southern districts. Several others are working in the FWB hospital which has been ministering in the country for nearly 40 years.

Yes, God is bringing a new wave of witnesses onto the scene, although the missionary task certainly is not finished. Satan and all his forces know that reinforcement troops are on the way. They will need prayer.

A well-known minister once shared how God had brought him from the streets to the pulpit. He declared, "When you see where I have come from you are probably amazed. But, if you could see where I am going you would be awed." That pretty well sums up how I feel. I was stunned. Now, I am rejoicing and filled with anticipation for the future. When I see where we have come from I am amazed. But, when I think about what God will do through this new wave of witnesses, I am awed!

Clint Morgan and his wife, Lynette, have served with their family in Côte d'Ivoire since 1978.



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Don Robirds, Editor

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JEWS IN REVIEW



Curt Holland (center) stands with four teenagers baptized on May 21 in Campinas, Brazil.

Four Teens Baptized; **Youth Lead Service**

Four teenagers were baptized on Sunday, May 21, at the São Jose church in Campinas, Brazil: Gabryel, Agostinho, Jackson and Flavio.

According to missionary Curt Holland, the young people led the services on Sunday night with 18 teens participating. Holland says the teen Sunday school class began last year with only two people.

Bowerman Sees Kuna Again After Difficulties

Missionary Eddie Bowerman recently made another visit to the Kuna Indian tribe in Panama after experiencing several setbacks, including problems with his boat. The difficulties and physical ailments were viewed as Satanic attacks and urgent prayer requests went out across the United States and around the world.

In answer to prayer, Eddie says he was received well and was able to reestablish contact with some families. He and LaRhonda are planning to involve overseas apprentices, Joel Riley and Rusty Carney, in sports activities and English classes in the village.



Field chairmen (left to right) Stan Bunch, Jeff Turnbough, and Clint Morgan are shown with Steve Lytle, director of overseas operations.

Field Chairmen Meet With Staff and Board

Field Chairmen representing Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Panama, Uruguay, Spain, France and Japan gathered April 26-28 at the Free Will Baptist National Offices in Antioch, Tenn., to meet with the Foreign Missions staff. Representatives from India, South Korea and Russia were unable to attend.

The group discussed the restructuring of the Department of Foreign Missions, the funding of support services, improving statistical reporting, the International Fellowship in 2001, mobilization roles, etc.

On Monday afternoon and Tuesday, May 1 and 2, the chairmen met with the board and staff.

Tornado Mars Town: God Protects Saints

According to missionary Alice Smith in Agnibilekrou, Côte d'Ivoire, a tornado hit the nearby town of Yobouakrou on April 16. Practically every building was damaged or completely destroyed, including the Catholic church and the Muslim mosque.

Alice expressed praise that not

one Free Will Baptist home was damaged. Pastor Jérôme from Agnibilekrou and three other men take turns going to Yobouakrou on Sundays to minister to the young church.

Russian Baptists Plan First Statewide Meeting

According to missionary Mike Corley, the Russian Baptists scheduled their first statewide association meeting for June 24 in Chelyabinsk.

Corley noted that Pastor Sobolev had enjoyed the National Association of Free Will Baptists in Tulsa so much that he wanted to do something similar in Russia for the Baptists in the Chelyabinsk oblast (state).

Mike indicated the meeting is to be a one-day session which will give the Russian brothers and sisters an opportunity to gather for prayer, praise and fellowship. Jimmy Aldridge, former overseas secretary for Foreign Missions; Randy Wilson, pastor of Bethany Free Will Baptist Church in Broken Arrow, Okla.; and Scott Bullman, music/worship leader at Bethany, were scheduled to attend the special gathering.



Charolette Tallent (top, left) was reassigned to serve in France, Tonya Blanchard (top, right) and Shannon Little (right) will serve one year in Japan. Tonya will teach English and Shannon will serve as a school nurse.







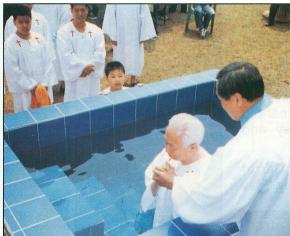
Board Meets, Adopts Agreement with FWBBC

The Board of Foreign Missions met May 1-4 at the Free Will Baptist National Offices in Antioch, Tenn. They authorized a memorandum of understanding with Free Will Baptist Bible College which includes the supply of a missionary in residence by Foreign Missions. It also provides for a program of overseas internship as a part of the curriculum for missions students.

The board reinstated Charolette Tallent to career missionary status in France and approved Tonya Blanchard and Shannon Little for one-year terms of special service in Japan.

In consultation with the field chairmen, the board changed the seven percent assessment of missionary accounts for information and promotion to nine percent for support services beginning in January 2001.

They accepted the resignation of Dr. Paul and Tammy Gentuso from missionary service and established a professional volunteer account for mobilizing professional people. They also set up a French pastoral training fund.





Dr. John Chang, pastor of the FWB Church for All Nations (above), baptizes a convert. Korean women participate in the first feetwashing service in a Korean FWB church.

The board approved a 2001 budget of \$7,954,503.26, including VISION funds. It will be presented to the body at the National Association for adoption.

Officers elected for the next vear were Doug Little, chairman; Milton Worthington, vice chairman; and David Shores, secretary.

Korean Church Has First Feetwashing, Baptism

The first feetwashing service among Korean Free Will Baptists was held by the newly established FWB Church for All Nations in Seoul on April 21. According to Dr. John Chang, pastor, approximately 30 people were present.

The church held its first FWB baptismal service on May 5.

News Capsules

Spain—Tim and Kristi Johnson became the proud parents of a 7.5 pound baby boy on June 9 in Madrid, Spain. Alexander (Alejandro) Ray Johnson measured 21 inches long.

France—An annual youth retreat was held in France on April 27-30. According to Jerry Gibbs, the theme was "God's Will for Our Lives." Jerry says, "There were 40 kids or more and the Lord really blessed."

Antioch, Tenn.—Mr. Shane Davison, overseas associate, is sched-

uled to leave the United States for Côte d'Ivoire on August 9. He will spend two years teaching music at International Christian Academy in Bouaké.



Shane Davison

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Mr. William A. Midgett, father of missionary Lynn Midgett in Spain, was hospitalized on June 4 in Oklahoma City with a severe heart attack. Cardiologists indicated the front half of his heart was dead. Lynn left Spain for the United States on June 11.

Spain—A Christian wedding for Colombians Jhon Freddy and Francia was held in the Villalba church on June 3. The couple was baptized on June 11.

Antioch, Tenn.—John Clifton Carey, son-in-law of missionaries Jim and Vicki Sturgill in Brazil, received the Master of Divinity degree from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in German-

News in Review

town, Tenn., on May 12. John and his wife, Vicki Lynn, are going to Ft. Hood, Tex., where John will be a full-time U.S. Army Chaplain.

Brazil—Missionary Nancy Hughes expressed praise for the salvation of two people in May: 16-year-old Eduardo on Mother's Day and Leonardo on May 21.

St. Louis, Mo.—James Garret Gibbs was born Wednesday, May

GIFTS FROM THE HEART

These special gifts were received between February and the end of May:

between February and	I the end of May:
Donor Melba Burch Maryland Hts, Mo.	In Memory of Linda M. Pratte
Rev. and Mrs. Harley Brown Knoxville, Tenn.	Mabel Loftis
Evelyn M. Cooper Greeley, Colo.	Clyde "Jack" Combs
Allen and Kelley Stines Marshall, N.C.	Edgmon Triplets
North Warren FWB Ladies Auxiliary Warren, Mich.	Edgmon Triplets
Rev. and Mrs. R. Eugene Waddell Nashville, Tenn.	Mrs. Autie Franks
Tanya Hart Ayden, N.C.	Edgmon Triplets Ken Eagleton Mrs, Ardell Wilson Marquerite Ringenberg James Holton Barrow Mr. Bill Phillips Ms. Sandy R. Ott Mr. Redding Elks Michael Turnage
Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Norris College Station, Tex.	Mrs. Emma Ellis
Billie and Clarence Johnson Knightdale, N.C .	Mrs. Kathryn Tippett
Lamar and Joyce Rozier Alma, Ga.	Gwendolyn Douglas
Charles and Pat Douglas Alma, Ga.	Gwendolyn Douglas
Jenny Harden Alma, Ga.	Gwendolyn Douglas
Darrell Douglas Alma, Ga.	Gwendolyn Douglas
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Wagner Cedar Hill, Tenn.	Ken Eagleton
Dr. and Mrs. Homer E. Willis Nashville, Tenn.	Lela Harris
Pine Level Woman's Auxiliary Alma, Ga.	Gwendolyn Douglas

Special Gifts Amount \$______ Date ______ Given in memory/honor of _______ Given by: Name _______ Address _______ City ______ State _____ Zip ______ Please send memorial/honorary card to: Name _______ Address ______ City _____ State ____ Zip

In Honor of

Lynda Tait Randle

Donor

Tanya Hart Ayden, N.C











Couples departing for their fields include (top, left to right) Dale and Sandra Bishop, Mike and Deleen Cousineau, Dr. Kenneth and Rejane Eagleton, (bottom) Clint and Lynette Morgan, Darrel and Lila Nichols and Jeff and Melissa Lunsford.

31, in St. Louis, Mo., to Marc and Melissa Gibbs. The 7 pound 14 ounce boy is the first grandson of missionaries Jerry and Barbara Gibbs in France.

Côte d'Ivoire—On June 9 Miss Traci Epps received the Outstanding Single Staff award for the elementary level at International Christian Academy in Côte d'Ivoire.

Uruguay—Jaimie and Tammy Lancaster in Uruguay completed their Spanish language study in May.

Japan—Debbie Griffin plans to depart from Japan on July 11 to begin her stateside assignment.

Six Couples to Leave for Fields of Service

Five missionary couples and one teaching couple plan to leave in August for their fields of service. In early August, Dale and Sandra Bishop are scheduled to return to their ministry in Japan while Mike and Deleen Cousieau, Dr. Kenneth and Rejane Eagleton, and Darrel and Lila Nichols hope to depart for Côte d'Ivoire.

Clint and Lynette Morgan plan to leave for France where they will spend approximately six months filling in for missionaries prior to returning to their ministry in Côte d'Ivoire.

Jeff and Melissa Lunsford are to depart for Mongolia where they will teach under English Language Institute.

Holland Requests Prayer Against Satanic Attacks

Missionary Curt Holland recently requested prayer for the church in São Jose, Campinas, Brazil. Holland believes Satan is attacking people because of their growing faith.

In early May four of the men and a pastor from the area dealt with a demon-possessed man who attends the São Jose church. A woman in the church had been released from the bondage of evil spirits but later fell back under their power.

Stacy, VanWinkle Home; Stacy Resigns from FM

Kevin Stacy returned to the United States in May. He submitted his resignation from service under Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions after regretfully inform-

ing General Director James Forlines that some areas of his life had lapsed into moral compromise in the city where he was working.

Since February of 1999 Kevin and Charity VanWinkle have been seeking to establish a ministry to a Muslim unreached people group.

Charity arrived in the States in June. Though she lived in a different city and was not involved in Kevin's problems, it had an impact on her future plan of developing a team of Free Will Baptists in the area. She has requested a year's leave of absence to weigh her future ministry options.

Kevin has expressed his deep regret and sorrow and asked forgiveness for his conduct.

Combs Plans Sequel to "A Second Chance"

Missionary Shirley Combs, author of the book "A Second Chance," is on the verge of publishing a seguel. Shirley was unable to complete her manuscript prior to leaving for Brazil on May 15 but she is hoping to wind it up soon.

"I now have about 16 chapters written and I am trying to bring it to a close," says Shirley.

14 Overseas Apprentices Leave for Assignments

Fourteen students left the United States recently to serve during the summer as overseas apprentices with missionaries in six countries.

Vera Sturgill departed for Uruguay on May 16; David Dodson and Neil Morgan left for India on May 22; and Rusty Carney, Joel Riley and Michael Williford went to Panama on May 24.

Six left on June 1: Bridget Bowman, Tori Lindsey and Brenda Wendlandt left for Japan;

Amanda Springs, Kim Johnson and Heather Paul went to Brazil.

On June 28 Leah Chamberlain and Joy Taylor departed for Russia.

Two Saved in Open-**Air Meeting in Brazil**

Curt Holland in Campinas, Brazil, expressed praise for a recent open-air meeting in the São Jose area which was successfully conducted by the church people. He also expressed praise for the salvation of two ladies, Nair and Maria

Holland noted that the church was scheduled to celebrate family month beginning with a couples retreat on May 1. The church had a special children's service on Sunday night, May 7, with Bobby Poole preaching and Geneva ministering through chalk drawings.

70 Youth Attend Rally at St. Nazaire Church

According to missionaries Jerry and Barbara Gibbs in France, 70 young people attended a regional youth rally at the St. Nazaire church on May 13.

The teens participated in a treasure hunt in a nearby forest and then gathered at the church for a time of worship. Three MKs—Daniel Riggs, Joel Teague, and Ryan Gibbs—participated in the musical part of the service.

Anderson Near End of Tropical Studies

Medical missionary Verlin Anderson, who has been studying tropical medicine in Antwerp, Belgium, before proceeding to Côte d'Ivoire, is due to end his course of studies in mid-July.

Verlin and his wife, Deborah, requested prayer for his stamina and comprehension in class. The

Andersons indicated that almost every day provides opportunities to talk about spiritual matters. They plan to proceed to Côte d'Ivoire immediately after school ends

FINANCIAL BEAT

Through May 2000						
Income for May Total income throug Projected income th Total expenses throu	h May rough May ıgh May	2, 3,	548,025.83 127,243.06 427,420.63 757,040.79			
These accounts are	in the deficit:					
Banks \$ Barker Callaway Chang Corley Deeds Hanna Holland, E Martens Korean Ministries Russian Ministries Snow Sturgill Teaque Teaque	1,056.93 1,374.96 4,292.43 50,758.92 142.12 5,531.42 5,830.99 3,350.93 5,579.12 16,207.67 8,541.65 1,339.50 1,041.56 1,884.55	Info. Promotional Third World Development Church Planter Noyabrisk Marie W. Hanna Bible Inst/India . VISION	231.00 121,187.32 28,449.45 3,768.20 766.06 10,495.23 351,200.00 3,046.57 18,022.13			
		\$	644,098.71			
These accounts are Banks\$		ut in serious need:	4,409.77			
Combe		Gibbe	903 14			

STATES IN ACTION

Turnbough.

Gainer Holland, C ...

State	2000 Goal	Goal Thru May	Contributions Thru May
Alabama	\$ 325.000	\$ 135,416,67	\$ 194,454,48
Arkansas		189,583.33	156,291.79
Arizona		5,000.00	3,025.00
California		29,166.67	28,590.18
Canada		4,166.67	1,817.13
Colorado		4,166.67	991.00
Colorado			
Florida		60,416.67	65,715.02
Georgia	265,000	110,416.67	105,434.30
Idaho		4,166.67	2,225.53
lowa	5,000	2,083.33	940.32
Illinois		70,833.33	68,782.97
Indiana	60,000	25,000.00	30,542.70
Hawaii	1,000	416.67	0.00
Kansas	7,000	2,916.67	1,434.45
Kentucky		39,583.33	26,248.96
Louisiana		4,166.67	763.36
Maryland		33,333.33	27,534.61
Michigan	240,000	100,000.00	55,469.98
Missouri		202,083.33	165,377.25
Mississippi	150,000	62,500.00	45,467.45
Montono		2.083.33	875.00
Montana North Carolina	700,000	291,666.67	313,674.21
	700,000	291,000.07	
Nebraska		1,250.00	4,402.00
New Mexico		2,500.00	483.12
*Northeast Assn		2,083.33	385.10
**Northwest Assn		5,416.67	2,340.07
Ohio	210,000	87,500.00	59,955.83
Oklahoma	550,000	229,166.67	153,681.01
Pennsylvania	2,000	833.33	100.50
South Carolina	420,000	175,000.00	154,257.48
Tennessee		370.833.33	253,925.74
Texas		43,750.00	34,341.14
Virginia		43,750.00	35,009.13
Virgin Islands		1,666.67	1,543.25
West Virginia		56,250.00	44,997.72
FWB Foundation		10.416.67	5,970.23
Miscellaneous		93,618.75	25,604.34
WNAC		70.833.33	40,709.94
Totals		\$2,574,035.43+	

*Northeast Association New Hampshire, Vermont, New Jersey, Maine, Connecticut, Washingon, D.C., and Massachusetts

**Northwest Association Alaska, Oregon and Washington

+Does not include VISION projects

Note: Miscellaneous includes miscellaneous sources, states and interest income.



P.O. Box 5002 Antioch, TN 37011-5002

Board of Foreign Missions: Douglas Little, chairman; Milton Worthington, vice-chairman; David Shores, secretary; Bill Jones, Bill Reagan, David Williford, Bill Van Winkle, Sherwood Lee, Terry Eagleton.

Administrative Staff: James Forlines, general director; Fred Warner, director of stateside development; Don Robirds, director of public relations; Steve Lytle, director of field operations; Robert Conley, director of financial operations; Eddie Payne, director of mobilization and recruit-

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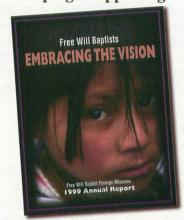


Forlines' Focus

By James Forlines, General Director

Inspiration—we look forward to the vision and purpose God has given as well as plans for the future.

Keeping It Appealing



Making It Informative

When Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions is looked at in these ways, the report is far from boring. The Mission's financial activities are audited each year. This information and significant actions from the board meetings of the last year are included in the Digest of Reports. If you are unable to attend the National Association and would like these reports, please contact our office and we will send them to you.

Expressing Our Gratitude

We thank God for His provision and celebrate His goodness over the past year. In 1999 ordained national pastors outnumbered missionaries 150 to 114

When you add the 236 licensed and lay pastors, Free Will Baptist Christian workers advancing the cause of Christ around the world as a result of FWB Foreign Missions total over 500. Seven Bible institutes provide training for 111 students. The swelling ranks of national workers bode well for continued growth.

Showing Our Progress

We now have 202 organized churches and 335 mission works. A total of 1.344 conversions were reported with an average Sunday attendance of 12,314. In 1990 the average was 5,744. This means that over the decade of the nineties Free Will Baptists internationally grew by 114 percent. Truly we celebrate the blessings of our God.

Denominational Mobilization

In light of these statistics we are trusting God for even greater things for the future. On Tuesday morning at the National Association this year we will be unveiling a major denominational mobilization plan to increase our involvement and effectiveness in the twenty-first century. If you plan to be in Anaheim, we hope you will join us. Of course, we will be sharing this information through subsequent issues of HEARTBEAT as well.



Reports, Reports!

This is the time of year when Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions reports to our denomination concerning the activities of the past year. Many states have meetings in the early summer. And, of course, the National Association is to convene in Anaheim, Calif... in July.

Most Free Will Baptists enjoy the fellowship at meetings such as these. But few would confess that they look forward to sitting through business meetings and listening to denominational reports. Perhaps this is an area that needs attention. We might ask the question, why do denominational agencies give reports? What is their purpose? And how can these times be more meaningful?

Reasons for Reports

Three predominant reasons for such reports seem to emerge: (1) Information—statistical and financial audits provide accountability to the sending churches; (2) Celebration—as we see what God is doing we celebrate together as God's people; and (3)

ames Forlines