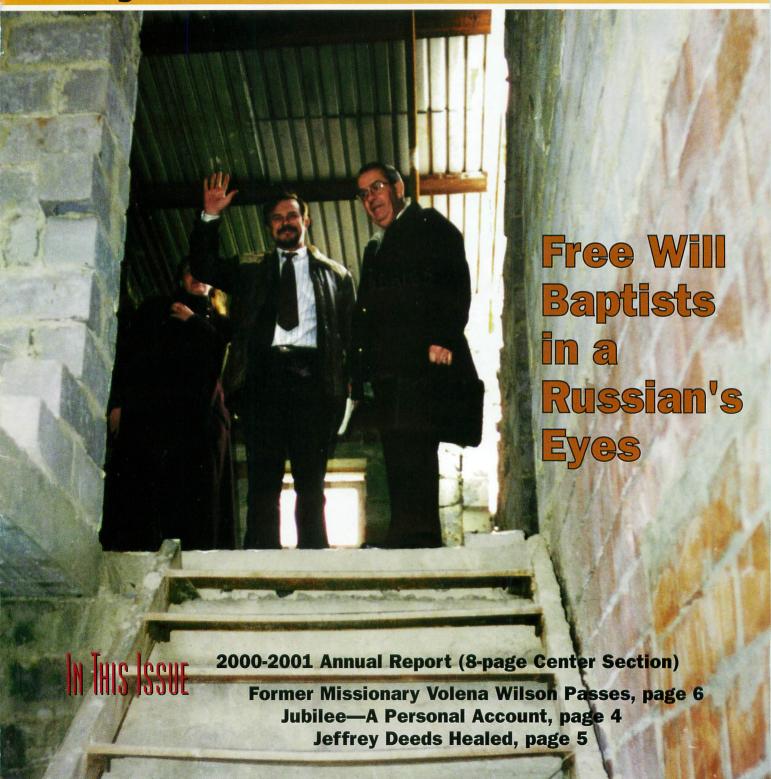


Showing God at work around the world





# Free Will Baptists in a Russian's Eyes!

By Nikolay Sobolev



ho are these people and what do they want from me?" That was my first thought upon meeting the first group of Free Will Baptists. From that time in September 1995 to the present our relationship has been one of mutual respect and help. Free Will Baptists have assisted us not only materially but also with much prayer. They don't tell us how to run our churches or how to be Christian. They treat us with respect and as equal partners, while many Western groups come to Russia and think they have all the answers.

Free Will Baptist involvement in Russia started in 1996 with pastors' seminars conducted twice a year and with help in planting churches. Initially they helped us start churches in Kopejsk, Kamyshlov, Ekaterinburg, Troitsk and Kurgan, all of which are still viable, growing churches. The seminars eventually grew into a Bible institute, which held its first class in November 1999. From this first class of students, seven are currently involved in church planting.

# Presently 13 missionaries are sponsored by Free Will Baptists.

Presently 13 missionaries are sponsored by Free Will Baptists. These include four missionaries in Kurgan Oblast (an Oblast is similar to a state in the United States), three in Sverdlovsk Oblast and six in Cheylabinsk Oblast. Support provided by the U.S. body includes salary, rental of a meeting place and assistance with the purchase of literature. The Bible institute not only educates

Pastor Sobolev stands before his congregation (top) and (left) Jimmy Aldridge, former overseas secretary, speaks to pastors through an interpreter.

COVER: Sobolev and Aldridge at a construction site during the mid 1990s.

our leaders, it also inspires them and encourages them to do more than they thought they could.

The opposition we face now is mainly bureaucratic and to some extent religious (from the Orthodox Church). The city administration in Kopejsk recently denied permission for the church to rent a public meeting space. They were told this was designed to keep out cults; however, the church is a legally registered organization.

We ran into another form of opposition more recently surrounding an attempt to conduct an evangelization service in a nearby village. The team leader had coordinated everything ahead of time. When our people arrived, the doors to the theater were locked and the local police escorted them out of the town. It seems the local Orthodox priest told the mayor it wouldn't be a good idea for Baptists to hold services in the village. We have decided to "shake the dust" from our feet when we encounter situations

After providing this article (translated by Mike Corley), Nikolay was asked by the UECB leadership to go to Krasnodar Kraj (state) and assume leadership as the Senior Presbyter. He was elected by the leadership there and has since departed Chevlabinsk to assume the new position. Nikolay remains the regional vice president of the Ural Region. Before accepting the job in Krasnodar, Nikolay sought reassurance from both missionary Mike Corley and from Director of Field Operations Steve Lytle that Free Will Baptist involvement in the Ural region would not be affected. He was assured that our commitment to the region was made for the long term, in accordance with the Lord's will.

Vitalij, Nikolay's son, was elected pastor of the church and Igor Maksakov, Rector of the Bible institute, assumed the position of Senior Presbyter of the Chelyabinsk and Kurgan oblasts.





like this and move on to another place more open to receiving the gospel.

The most exciting thing right now is the new Bible institute building Free Will Baptists have purchased. It is a 1,000 square meter, two-story building. We hope to get it renovated as soon as possible and start holding classes in it. We see a lot of potential for this building. When it is finished, we plan to move the recently established Sunday school faculty from Ekaterinburg to this building. We also hope to start another class of students in the pastor's faculty sometime in the near future. In addition, we have a vision of establishing a new church plant and summer camp for children in this building.

Free Will Baptists have already done much but we, the Union of Evangelical Christian Baptists, would like them to expand their presence in

The Kurgan church (left), started with the help of Free Will Baptists, is growing. This building (bottom, left) was purchased by Free Will Baptists for the Bible institute.

Russia. We have a kindred spirit and believe the same basic doctrine. We would like to see more Free Will Baptist missionaries here. Our people would like to establish more sister church relationships, like the one Good News Church in Cheylabinsk has with Bethany Free Will Baptist Church in Broken Arrow, Okla. It provides us a way to minister beyond our borders.

Mike and Cathy Corley, your missionaries here, have been very helpful to us, and we are thankful for their assistance. They are organizing our Sunday school, coordinating the Bible institute, teaching English to our leaders and training translators. They also help with other projects and provide ideas about how to do different things.

# The opposition we face now is mainly bureaucratic and to some extent religious.

One of our greatest needs is prayer for our country and financial stability. We want to see our people wake up to their need of Christ in their lives. We also desire people to be employed and paid on time.

On the regional and local level, we hope to start another class of students in the pastor's or missionary's faculty. We are committed to train our people to become leaders and to go out to win others to Christ.



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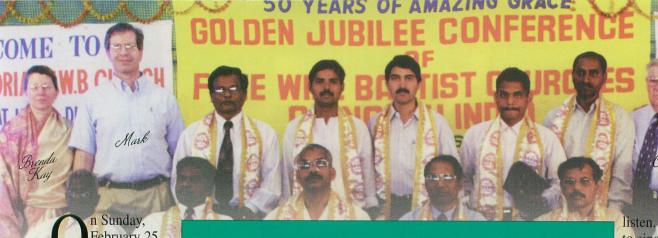
May-June 2001

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Don Robirds, Editor

Deborah St. Lawrence, Editorial Assistant

Jim Johnson, Artist



February 25, Sherwood Lee, Todd Parrish and I left South Carolina to attend the Jubilee Celebration of the Free Will Baptist work in North India.

We met Brother James Forlines, general director of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions, in Paris, France.

The four of us traveled on to India. We stayed in Delhi for three days to take care of some business for the mission. Then we went to Bagdogra, West Bengal, where we met Brother Carlisle Hanna and some of the folks from Sonapur on Friday. The Hanna children—Don, Mark and Brenda Kay—arrived with us.

When we got to Sonapur, a good delegation met us and placed laurels around our necks. It was awesome to know we were finally with Brother Carlisle and some of his Indian family.

After a short visit with the people we went to the grave site of Marie Hanna. It was a very moving experience to stand there with the Hanna family.

The 50 Year Jubilee Celebration began on Monday night, March 5, with a very elaborate opening service. Brother James Forlines spoke. Approximately 5,000 people attended the conference, including 200 from the country of Nepal and some pastors from South India.

India's Golden Jubilee

**A Personal Account** 

By J. M. Creech

Approximately 5,000 people attended this meeting, including 200 from the country of Nepal.

Throughout the week we started services by the clock but ended by "Indian time." No one was in a hurry! The people did not seem able to get enough of the Word of God. They would sit for hours on the ground and

listen. They all loved to sing and a lot of special music was included.

Most of the services were not in English, but the Lord was in that place. His Spirit bore witness

with our spirits that we were in His presence and among God's people.

Brother Hanna and the Hanna family were honored in a special service. Pastor Devon, the oldest Indian pastor, was also honored. Brother Carlisle told us that Pastor Devon had probably led more people to the Lord than any Free Will Baptist ever.

It was a blessing beyond description to meet the 17 ordained Indian pastors, the many evangelists and the church planters. They are dedicated men of God and are doing a great work for the Lord in India. Our hearts were knit together in brotherly love.

Carlisle and Marie Hanna have sacrificed their lives to work with the Indian people. It is evident that God has used them to do a great work that will last because it is built upon a firm foundation—the Solid Rock.

Today over 125 Free Will Baptist churches are functioning in North India and 529 people were baptized this past year.

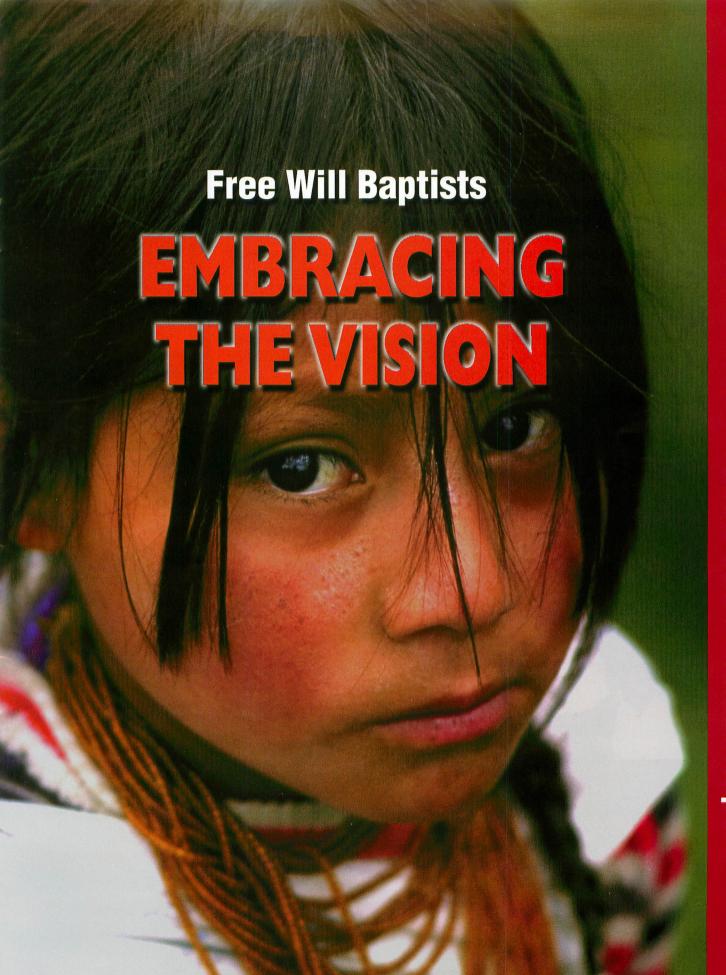
I praise the Lord that He allowed me to be a part of this team which was privileged to visit the work in India. It has truly been a life-changing experience.

J. M. Creech is pastor of Horse Branch FWB Church of Turbeville, S.C.

A group of Indian ladies (left) sing during the conference and the four U.S. visitors receive laurels (right) from the welcoming delegation.







2

By taking advantage of the new video series "Embracing The Vision," churches and individuals are understanding God's heartbeat.

#### The Heartbeat of God

God wants every people group on earth to have the opportunity to hear the gospel and become His worshippers.

God's call to Abraham included His promise of blessing, but this clearly was followed by responsibility and purpose. Abraham was blessed to "be a blessing" to all families (peoples) of the earth (Genesis 12:2,3).

In tune with God's heartbeat, the National Association of Free Will Baptists was formed in 1935 as a "fellowship of evangelical believers united in extending the witness of Christ and the building of His Church THROUGHOUT THE WORLD."\*



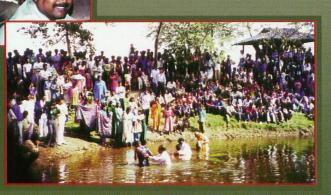
#### **Our First Mission Field**

Laura Belle Barnard was commissioned and sent to India in 1935. As the first missionary to be sent by the newly formed National Association of Free Will Baptists, Miss Barnard established a fruitful work in South India, starting with a school. She opened it in a tea planter's 10'x15' storeroom which doubled for Sunday school and church services. God has blessed her efforts!

After 50 years in North India, Carlisle Hanna is seeing hundreds come to Christ

through national evangelists. He says, "When the Lord spoke to us about going to India, it was a commitment for our lives. Willing to go and willing to serve, willing to spend and to be spent. People from many people groups in India have received Christ as Savior. But many needy places around the world and many people still need the gospel."

Ultimately, God declares that people from "all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues" will be saved through the church's witness (Revelation 7:9).



\*Preface to the "Treatise of the Faith and Practices of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Inc."

3

## The video series has increased the burden of Free Will Baptists over the lostness of billions of people.

#### The Crying Need of the World

More than 2000 years after Jesus gave His last command and returned to glory, over 2.5 billion people still haven't heard the gospel.

Although five basic types of people are identified in our look at the status of world evangelization, three are extremely important today:

#### 1. Untargeted

People groups with virtually no access to the gospel, no missionary, no church, no known believers, and no known effort to reach them (232 people groups of 10,000 or more)

#### 2. Unreached

People groups with a church among them but it is too insignificant to make an impact (1,746 unreached people groups exist.)

Example:

Muslims (1.2 billion)—59 of the 115 Muslim groups with over 1,000,000 people have no church. Only three missionaries per every one million Muslims

#### 3. Unevangelized

A growing church exists within these groups, but most people still have not adequately heard the gospel.

#### **Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Status**

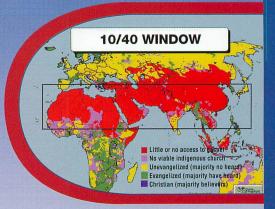
#### Our strategy:

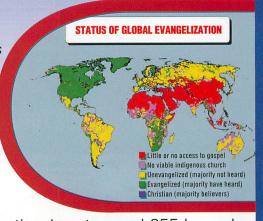
1. 102 witnesses from the United States plus 90 ordained national pastors and 255 lay and licensed ministers labor in 15 countries mobilizing the growing church for global evangelization. Among the unreached peoples in these areas we are primarily targeting groups in France, Russia, Asia, Africa, Panama, and India.

2. Beyond our existing ministries, we are focusing on research, planning, and prayer in order to aggressively take the gospel to untargeted, unreached, and unevangelized people groups in other parts of the world.

— Praying through the 10/40 window

Project Restricted Access Countries



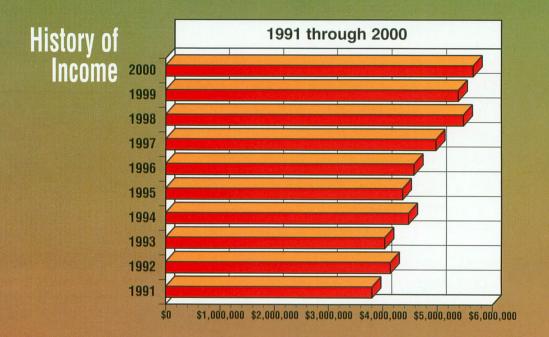


4

Learning that God's call and commission are to churches and individual Christians, people across the denomination are doing something about it.

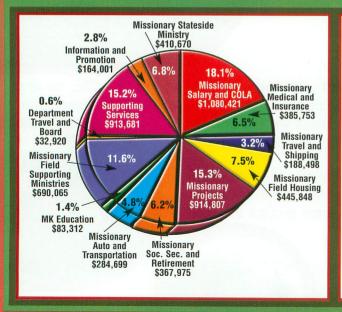
#### The Free Will Baptist Response

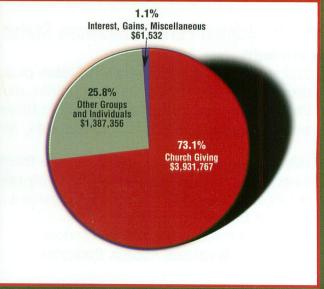
Cooperating to reach out with the message of Christ, 1,474 churches contributed to world outreach through the Foreign Missions Department in 2000.



## **Expenditures for 2000**

## Sources of Income for 2000





5

#### God is manifesting His power and involvement in many of our fields.

**India** and **Nepal** reported 529 saved and baptized in 2000.

**Cuba** gratefully indicated a preaching force of 25 ordained and 143 licensed and lay preachers.

**Panama** revealed a total of 50 Bible institute students.

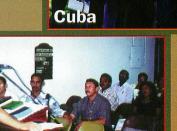
**Korea's** ministry, launched in 1999, reported 16 churches and 35 ministers in the new Free Will Baptist Association of Korea. Sunday attendance averaged 785.

**Russia** reported 13 mission works and three churches.

The extremely difficult fields of **France**, **Spain**, **Japan** and **Uruguay** reported a combined total of 62 conversions.

**Côte d'Ivoire** rejoiced over 288 baptized during the year with Africans assuming a major role.









#### Some overall statistics from all fields for 2000:

**1,704** conversions; **1,466** baptisms; **288** organized churches; **413** mission works; **17,789** average Sunday attendance







6

Excitement is growing as people around the denomination realize they can be personally active in world evangelization.

#### **The Church's Personal Involvement**



"The Great Commission was given to the Church and to individuals!"— James Forlines

#### **Ten Areas of Foreign Missions' Commitment for Denominational Mobilization**

**1.** Expose a generation of CHILDREN to missions and help them find their role in global evangelism.

- 2. Give TEENAGERS an opportunity to explore needy areas of the world and share their faith.
- **3.** Open avenues for RETIREES to spend some of their retirement in mobilization efforts.
- **4.** Provide opportunities for LAYMEN AND LAYWOMEN to use their careers to reach the unreached.
- **5.** Assist LOCAL CHURCHES in developing strategies for Acts 1:8 evangelism.



- **6.** Aid COLLEGES in preparing to train an influx of students to touch the world.
  - 7. Develop world evangelism PRAYER NETWORKS.
  - **8.** ACCUMULATE FINANCIAL UNDERPINNING through foundation and endowment giving for a bold 21st century advance.
- 9. Stimulate a GROWING DENOMINATIONAL BASE in the
  United States by encouraging the planting
  of new churches.



**10.** Encourage an ENTRE-PRENEURIAL SPIRIT among our people.

7

#### Opportunities for service SHORT-TERM SERVICE

Medical Personnel
Ivory Coast
Variety at hospital in Doropo

Drama

Panama, Spain

Music

Panama, Japan, France (coffeehouse, Christian band)

Computer Expert Ivory Coast

Business Manager Ivory Coast

Sports Teams and Sports Camps
Panama, Ivory Coast, France, Spain

Field Training and Research
Uruguay

Camp Ministry

Spain, Uruguay, Brazil

Children's Ministries

Japan

Evangelistic Social Outreach
Brazil

"Foreign Missions is not here to do the Great Commission for the denomination but to help churches fulfill their obligation to make the gospel available to everyone, everywhere. We do this by mobilizing, facilitating, and channeling people toward fulfilling their basic calling." — James Forlines

#### **CAREER MISSIONARIES**

Church Planters (these are urgent needs)

**Uruguay**—3 couples

Spain—25 couples (five teams) by 2025

Brazil-10 couples

Japan-5 couples

Ivory Coast—5 couples (including for unreached peoples)

France—3 couples

Educators

Korea—2 seminary professors; 2 English teachers (short- or long-term)

Brazil—1 Bible institute professor; 5 retired school teachers for International School

Japan—10 English teachers

France—1 couple to develop Bible institute level training for pastors and church leaders;

1 couple to work in evangelism who are strong in apologetics and philosophy

Russia—teachers for Hinkson Christian Academy in Moscow; 1 missionary facilitator;

1 administrator/professor to work in Moscow in the Russian Baptist Union office; professors to teach in the Chelyabinsk Bible Institute

Ivory Coast—1 full-time field trainer (to receive groups from States for on-field training:

"Go and Be," awareness tours, etc.); 1 full-time Bible institute teacher

#### **More opportunities for service** Administration Korea—1 administrator for Dr. Chang Ivory Coast—1 full-time or part-time business manager; someone to take care of visas, busywork, etc. so missionaries can devote themselves to ministry Medical **Ivory Coast** nurse for International School Muslim Evangelism France, Spain, 10/40 Window-Individuals and teams for Muslim outreach Music Ministries Panama—full-time music teacher Ivory Coast—1 music teacher; 1 ethnomusicologist (full-time or part-time) Youth Ministries Panama—1 full-time youth minister Russia—summer youth camp workers Literature Ministries Ivory Coast—1 couple or single to work as editor, writer, and curriculum developer; editor/translator Counseling Ministries **Ivory Coast**

Video Ministry—(Jesus film, discipleship)

Japan, Russia

Construction Teams

Japan, France, Russia

Check out our website: www.nafwb.org/fm



## News In Review



Missionary Verlin Anderson (with back to camera) leads a seminar in Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire, on Community Health and Evangelism.

#### 23 Attend CHE Vision Seminar in Côte d'Ivoire

Dr. Kenneth Eagleton and Verlin Anderson conducted a "Vision Seminar" March 26-29 in Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire. The two missionaries sought to help national pastors and denominational leaders understand the kind of program envisioned for the Community Health and Evangelism plan.

A total of 23 pastors and denominational leaders attended the entire seminar and others came for part of it.

Dr. Eagleton said, "We are waiting for a response from the churches to decide in which town to start preparing Community Health and Evangelism trainers."

#### **Jeffrey Deeds Healed After Prayer Service**

Retired missionaries Earnie and Jean Deeds declared that their son, Jeffrey Deeds, was healed by the Lord on March 13. Jeffrey had been suffering from a debilitating illness of the inner ear for over 13 months. He showed little sign of improvement during that time.

After the regular Sunday worship service in the church Jeffrey attends in Oklahoma, a special prayer time was held for those in the congregation with health problems. After prayer, Jeffrey was no longer dizzy, the tingling sensations and numbness in his arms and legs were gone and the bobbing of his head had stopped. The Deeds family is rejoicing and praising the Lord for Jeffrey's recovery. He continues to gain strength and no longer needs a walker or a wheelchair.

#### Koinonia Church in Japan Calls Pastor

The Koinonia Free Will Baptist Church in Ebetsu Shi, a suburb of Sapporo, Japan, recently called Mr. Sadao Hirabuki as pastor. He officially took office on the first Sunday in April.

Missionaries Dale and Sandra Bishop participated in starting the church and led the congregation for several years.

#### **Chang Says 16 Churches,** 35 Ministers Are FWB

According to Dr. John Chang, coordinator of the Korean Free Will Baptists, the National Association of Korea now has 35 ministers and 16 churches. The association was organized on March 23, 2000.

The Asia Free Will Baptist Seminary, which started in March of 2000, has six teachers on staff with 13 students studying on campus and 670 enrolled on-line.

The second Free Will Baptist Church of All Nations was established on March 9 in Pusan, the second largest city in Korea, with 15 charter members.

#### **News Capsules**

Moore, Okla.—Amanda Thompson, a student at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, will be leaving for China with the English Language Institute in August.

**Brazil**—According to missionary Curt Holland in Campinas, Brazil, the evangelistic team from the São José church held a service on April 14 in the house of Terezinha. a lady in the area. Terezinha and her daughter, Patricia, made decisions for Christ after the meeting.

Guin, Ala.—Mr. Howard Franks, father of retired Brazil missionary Dave Franks, passed away on Monday, April 9, in Guin, Ala., at age 92. He had been ill for some time. Funeral services were held April 11 at Mt. Olive FWB Church in Guin.

**Uruguay**—According to Dennis Owen, pastor Gerardo Acevedo and his family recently moved to Montevideo, Uruguay, from the Rivera area. He will be helping in outreach in the capital city. Ruben Figueroa was ordained to the ministry during the first part of April.

**Knoxville, Tenn.**—Mrs. Fostine Pate, mother of missionary Barbara Gibbs in France, underwent heart bypass surgery on April 25 in Knoxville, Tenn. Latest reports

## News In Review

indicate the surgery was successful and Mrs. Pate was recovering well.

**Wylie, Tex.**—Jim Dorsey, father of missionary Tammy Lancaster, underwent major surgery on April 12. Latest reports indicate he is recovering well.

Brazil—The church in Buritis, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, hosted a fellow-ship meeting of the regional association of churches on Good Friday, April 13, with 127 people attending. Churches involved included Barbacena, Conselheiro Lafaiete, Antonio Carlos, and Belo Horizonte.

**Waynesville, Mo.**—Gladys Turnbough, mother of Judy Bailey and Jeff Turnbough, had knee replacement surgery in Rolla, Mo. on April 3, 2001.

**Tifton, Ga.**—Mr. Leonard Ogletree, father of Japan missionary Sandra Bishop, died on April 8 in Tifton, Ga., due to complications

#### GIFTS FROM THE HEART

These special gifts were received in February and March 2001:

In Memory of Donor Bernice Cantrell Virgil Cantrell Thayer, Mo Dr. and Mrs. Irvin Hyman Virgil Cantrell Albany, Ga. Rodney and Carole Stackhouse Hughson, Calif. Rev. Joe Mooneyham Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Salter Rev. Joe Mooneyham Ceres, Calif Danny and Pam Trail Rev. J. W. Blanks Batesville, Ark. Rev. and Mrs. Thurman Pate Frank Abbott Knoxville, Tenn. Rev. and Mrs. Eddie Young Evelyn Hanna Donor In Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Preston Mr. and Mrs. James Cox

Clip and mail

# 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



These missionaries and Brazilians stand in front of the "Christ, the Redeemer" statue in Rio de Janeiro where they attended a church growth seminar on the "purpose-driven church."

from a stroke. Dale, Sandra, Douglas and Jennifer were able to arrive in the United States in time for the funeral which was conducted on April 12.

#### Missionaries, Nationals Attend Conference

Three missionary couples in Brazil attended a church growth seminar in Rio de Janeiro the weekend of March 6. They were accompanied by five couples from the São José church in Campinas, one couple from the First Free Will Baptist Church in Campinas and three individuals from the Candida church in Araras.

The special conference on the "purpose-driven church" was conducted by Rick Warren who developed that church growth model in the United States. Missionaries attending were Andy and Andrea Moore, Jim and Shirley Combs, and Curt and Mary Holland.

## B. Aycock Has Bout with Dengue Fever

Missionary Bobby Aycock was hospitalized in Barbacena, Brazil, on March 18 due to a high fever. For several days doctors were bewildered over his condition but thought it to be an infection in the brain. After tests and further consultations, he was told that he had dengue fever.

Bobby improved and went home on March 29. He has continued to progress although he was quite weak after his long ordeal in the hospital.



Volena Wilson

## Volena Wilson, Former Missionary, Passes

Miss Volena Wilson, former missionary to South India, died from complications of a stroke on March 30 in McDowell Hospital in Marion, N.C. The 83-year-old servant of the Lord labored in India from 1951 to 1968, when she returned to the United States due to health needs.

Miss Wilson remained active in



A lay pastor conducts the service in one of many newly formed house churches in Cuba. Steve and Judy Lytle were able to visit several churches during their time on the island in February and March.

the Lord's service in North Carolina and maintained a close relationship with Indian Christians with whom she had ministered. She was employed by the Presbyterian Journal until her retire-

According to her pastor, Roger Hayley of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Marion, Volena faithfully ministered in nursing homes, in hospitals, and to shutins in addition to promoting missions to India.

Officiating at her funeral service on Sunday afternoon, April 1, were the pastor and former general director of Foreign Missions, R. Eugene Waddell.

#### Lytles Visit Cuba, **Attend Association**

Steve Lytle, director of field operations, and his wife, Judy, went to Cuba on February 19 to attend and to speak at the annual meeting of the Cuban Association of Free Will Baptists which met February 23-25 at Cedars of Lebanon.

According to Steve, messages were preached by several Cuban pastors and missionary Ronald Callaway in addition to his two messages. The association honored Ron and Linda for their dedicated work in teaching in the

seminary.

Ramón Sanchez was re-elected president of the association. Rubén Ginebra became secretary, and Rolando Delgado is treasurer.

In addition to speaking at the Cuban association and in several of their churches, Lytle spoke to seminary students on February 27 from 10:00 a.m. until noon. He covered a variety of subjects including servant leadership, opportunities and challenges for taking the gospel to the 10/40 window, postmodernism, inclusivism, pluralism, etc. He also fielded questions from the students.

Steve noted that Cuba is going through a critical time at the present with an increasing number of Cubans, including pastors, leaving the island.

The Lytles returned to the United States on March 3.

#### **Hughes Reports Four Baptized in Uberlândia**

According to missionary Tom Hughes, four people were baptized on March 25 in the Second Free Will Baptist Church in Uberlândia, Brazil.

Those baptized were Caio, age 10; Walison, age 14; Tila, a married lady; and Giovani, a young single parent.

#### **Embracing the Vision**

Four-part Video Series

Still available! Call our toll free number: 1-877-767-7736

#### FINANCIAL BEAT

#### Through March 2001

Income for February\$ 43	0.083.02
Income for March	8.154.86
Total income through March	7.622.88
Projected income through March	
Total expenses through March	7,447,86
Total 2001 Budget (including VISION projects)\$7,94	

#### These accounts are in the deficit:

Banks\$	1,400,16	West	15,811.60
Barker	2.728.28	Wilson, V	1,458.00
Blanchard	1,337.06	India Bible Inst	19,870.97
Callaway	7,738.52	Russian Ministries	23,869.88
Chang	86,534.23	Project RAC	44.00
Gainer	4,188.78	Korean Ministries	9,281.90
Hanna	2,612.83	Cuba	1.082.12
Holland, C	1,132.91	Third World Dev	3,768.20
Lancaster	777.07	VISION	
Little, S	7,578.29	Nantes Bldg	15,157.51
Martens	20,490.97	Abidjan Land/ch	14,215.13
Owen	10,476.46	Russian BI Bldg	24,492.20
Sturgill	8,000.00	Support Services	215,613.37
Teague	4,797.14		
Total			504,457.58

These accounts are low and needy: Bishop..... Holland, E \$ 1,100.28

#### STATES IN ACTION

			Goal	Contributions
State	2001 Goal		Thru March	Thru March
Alabama\$	438,000.00	\$	109,500.00	\$ 98,997.50
Arkansas	607,000.00		151,750.00	90,958.03
Arizona	7,000.00		1,750.00	1,576.47
California	66,000.00		16,500.00	10,766.94
Canada	10,000.00		2,500.00	798.73
Colorado	4,000.00		1,000.00	645.00
Florida	176,000.00		44,000.00	42.031.79
Georgia	326,000.00		81,500.00	48,549.36
Idaho	6,000.00		1,500.00	856.53
lowa	3,000.00		750.00	290.73
Illinois	166,000.00		41,500.00	27,923.56
Indiana	57,000.00		14,250.00	16,861.79
Hawaii	1.000.00		250.00	-
Kansas	10,000.00		2,500.00	499.09
Kentucky	101,000.00		25,250.00	17,583.19
Louisiana	3.000.00		750.00	1,457.53
Maryland	82,000.00		20,500.00	16,403.28
Michigan	217,000.00		54,250.00	39,214.21
Michigan Missouri	633,000.00		158,250.00	82,046.51
Mississippi	454,000.00		113,500.00	19,876.00
Mississippi				
Montana	3,000.00		750.00	700.00
North Carolina	830,000.00		207,500.00	159,262.53
Nebraska	11,000.00		2,750.00	500.00
New Mexico	3,000.00		750.00	211.75
*Northeast Assn	3,000.00		750.00	1,494.30
**Northwest Assn.	7,500.00		1,875.00	1,456.88
Ohio	192,000.00		48,000.00	22,781.17
Oklahoma	575,000.00		143,750.00	75,742.57
Pennsylvania	1,000.00		250.00	75.00
South Carolina	472,000.00		118,000.00	103,350.80
Tennessee	990,000.00		247,500.00	194,271.68
Texas	118,000.00		29,500.00	20,729.50
Virginia	92,000.00		23,000.00	17,485.94
Virgin Islands	3.000.00		750.00	350.00
West Virginia	180,000.00		45,000.00	24,392.59
FWB Foundation	34,000.00		8,500.00	26,872.81
Miscellaneous	25,718.51		6,429.63	460.00
WNAC	177,000.00		44,250.00	26,962.18
		64		
Totals\$7	,004,218.31+	\$ 1	1,771,004.00+	\$1,194,435.94

\*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



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

Administrative Staff: James Forlines, general director; Don Robirds, director of public relations; Steve Lytle, director of field operations; Robert Conley, director of financial operations; Eddie Payne, director of mobilization and recruitment.

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### **Forlines' Focus**

By James Forlines, General Director

the center of much persecution today.
The orthography (reducing an oral language to written symbols) of the Santal language is a continuing evidence of their work in those early years.

First Missionary

settled in the state of Orissa which is

In 1865 Henry C. Wells, a druggist in the village of Waterloo, NY, mentioned at a social gathering that honor should be shown to the patriotic dead of the Civil War by decorating their graves.

Again in the Spring of 1866 he mentioned this subject to General John B. Murray, Seneca County clerk. General Murray embraced the idea and a committee was formulated to plan a day honoring the dead. The townspeople adopted the new idea wholeheartedly. Wreaths, crosses and bouquets were made for each veteran's grave.

Memorial Day had begun! From a day to honor the dead from the Civil War it has extended to the dead from all wars. For some it is a time to honor family members and friends who have gone before. Free Will Baptists have a rich heritage of people in foreign missions. I want to honor their memory.

Jeremiah Phillips, Eli Noyes, and their families left for India in 1835. They were the first missionaries to go out as Free Will Baptists. Of course, this was before the merger with Northern Baptists in 1910-11. They After the merger, a number of loosely organized Free Will Baptist groups met in Nashville, Tenn., in 1935 (100 years after the first Free Will Baptist missionaries were sent). These groups formed the current National Association of Free Will Baptists. God providentially placed Laura Belle Barnard among Free Will Baptists in those crucial days. Her commitment in going to India, and her unusual communication skills, helped awaken the beginning of a missionary vision.

The first couple to serve as missionaries after the reorganization were Thomas "Pop" and Mabel "Mom" Willey. Their extended ministry in Cuba produced a growing church which continues to this day.

In the late 1940s Paul and Nelle Woolsey felt called to take the gospel to the closed country of Nepal. Unable to get access to the country, they began their work in North India. Their calling was to evangelism and church planting, but necessities forced them to treat the physical needs of the people as well. Without any formal medical training they stumbled into treating over 800

patients a month. Their sacrifice is recorded in the book *The Quack Doctor* by Paul Woolsey.

Dan and Trula Cronk and Carlisle and Marie Hanna followed the Woolseys in the work in North India. The Fiftieth Anniversary Conference of that ministry, held this year in Sonapurhat, West Bengal, revealed God's blessing. Over 5,000 people came for the celebration. What a thrilling testament to the faithfulness of God and the commitment of God's people.

Yes, we have a rich heritage. Many people stateside also have sacrificed to mobilize our denomination for missions. Names such as I. J. Blackwelder, Winford Davis, and Raymond Riggs come to mind.

God is working in unusual ways today. He is leading us to a greater level of involvement and effectiveness than ever before. But in the midst of our forward-focused vision, we want to reflect in gratitude on those who sacrificially served to bring us to this point. Their sacrifice motivates us onward and upward. That is why Hebrews 11 includes the "great cloud of witnesses." We are admonished to "run with patience the race that is set before us."

I want to thank all of them for their example. May all who come behind US find us faithful!

James Forlines