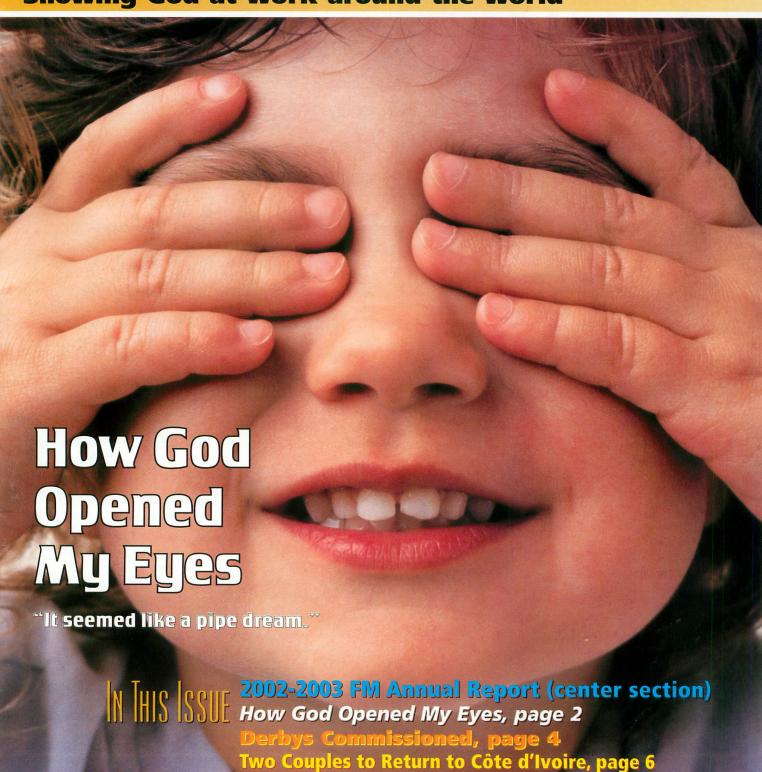
Showing God at work around the world







How God Opened My Eyes

by Patty Chamberlin

ave you ever asked yourself, "What do I really want to accomplish in life?" Then questioned, "What do I really value?"

Like most people, I had goals that were developed over time. Growing up as number nine in a family of 10, I learned through watching. My mom showed me that loving Jesus was the most important thing in life and in serving Him was true happiness. So my first goals in life were set at a very young age: I wanted to know Jesus as my Savior and I wanted a Christian family.

My pipe dream became a reality when at 35 years of age I entered college.

To me there is a difference between pipe dreams and real goals. As a young girl I had a pipe dream that I would go to college and get a degree for a better life because being poor was very humiliating to me. Yet, because of my circumstances, I didn't think I could afford to go to college. So my goal for a Christian husband and family would be sufficient, and I would forget about my pipe dream.

As I look back over my life, it amazes me how much more God has given me than I could have imagined. All I have ever asked for He has abundantly supplied. All I had to do was ask Jesus and He came into my heart. He gave me a Christian husband, Doug, and children, Leah and Andrew. And they love the Lord. God even supplied my wants. My pipe dream became a reality when at 35 years of age I entered college. Now I have a master's degree.

My goals and desires had been met in my life. My husband and I had good-paying jobs and a cozy cottage that we loved. It was paid for and less than 10 minutes driving distance from both of our jobs. We had fixed up the house ourselves and over the years our experiences there produced many sweet memories.

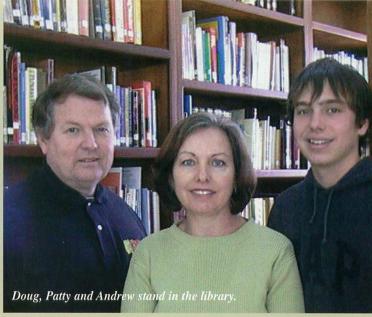
Doug and I love our Limestone Free Will Baptist Church family in Limestone, Tenn., and were very involved in the ministries there. For over 30 years, Pastor Alfred Cutshall has led those wonderful people to have a love for missions. Our church trains and supports the young people and generously gives so that they can be active in Church Training Service, the National Association Convention, and programs like E-TEAM.

God can take people of all ages and use them in His service.

We wanted our children to long for God and really know Him. We encouraged them to take advantage of these opportunities to get involved in denominational activities. They were very active in CTS and strived to win in local and state events to be able to compete at the National Association.

With their hard work and our





How could a middle-aged couple ever be accepted to represent our Lord through our missions agency?

church's help, we were able to go to the conventions from year to year. Through these experiences, we learned more about our denomination and the opportunities available for service. Leah and Andrew became active in missions through E-TEAM. Doug and I heard and understood more about missions and the needs through our children's experiences. They would come home and share with us how God had shown them the need for missionaries because of the spiritual darkness in other parts of the world.

Through the years God has met our needs and supplied our wants. Finally we began to question our viewpoints. How does a person find the heart of God and what He desires? Jesus said "seek and ye shall find." He really meant it! It was like He was slowly lifting the veil from our eyes. Our view of the wonderful life lived out in our little town did not seem important anymore. Doug and I desired to serve God in foreign missions. Just like my

childhood experience, it seemed like a pipe dream. How could a middle-aged couple ever be accepted to represent our Lord through our missions agency? Where would they find a place for us?

Claiming the promise "with God all things are possible," we are now serving Him in Camarma, Spain, at the Evangelical Christian Academy.

One night we sat down to watch the video Embracing the Vision. We listened as James Forlines gave a plea for people of all ages to consider mis-

sions work around the world. Claiming the promise "with God all things are possible," we are now serving Him in Camarma, Spain, at the Evangelical Christian Academy where evangelical missionaries send their kids to school. Doug is keeping the financial records, running errands, and doing maintenance. God has allowed me to serve as the first certified librarian the school has ever had. I arrived at the school just when they needed someone to set up their new library.

We are proof that God can take people of all ages and use them in His service if they are willing to see things from His perspective and follow Him.

Patty Chamberlin and her husband, Doug, went to Spain in November of 2002. Their son, Andrew, preceded them in September to begin classes on schedule at ECA. He is a high school senior.



May-Junel 2003

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News In Review





Pastor Jim McAllister (with microphone) leads in the commissioning prayer for Micah and Becky Derby as James Forlines and church members lay hands on the couple. The commissioning charge is read by Mr. Forlines (right) as Becky and Micah await their turn to sign the contract.

Derbys Commissioned in California Church

A special commissioning service for Micah and Becky Derby was held on April 16 at Harmony Free Will Baptist Church in Fresno, Calif. The Derbys are part of the French "M" Team.

General Director James Forlines preached the commissioning message and gave the charge. Pastor Jim McAllister led in prayer as the congregation gathered around and laid hands on the couple. Of those attending, only three had ever been in a missionary commissioning service.

English Story Hour to Begin in Spain

Missionaries Lea Edgmon and Kristi Johnson recently contacted the public library in Alpedrete, Spain, to inquire about the possibility of having an English story hour for children. The librarian agreed immediately and the next day placed posters around town advertising the story hour.

The first story hour was

scheduled for April 26. The two ladies urged people to pray for them as they prepare the stories and activities for the children. They also asked people to pray that this will provide opportunities for them to have a witness in Alpedrete.

11 Graduate from **Cedars of Lebanon**

A candlelight ceremony was held on February 22 at the Cedars of Lebanon Bible Institute in Cuba when 11 students graduated from the insti-

According to missionary Ron Callaway the senior class will graduate another seven students on August 23.

Graduates with lighted candles march into the tabernacle at Cedars of Lebanon Bible Institute in Pinar del Rio, Cuba.







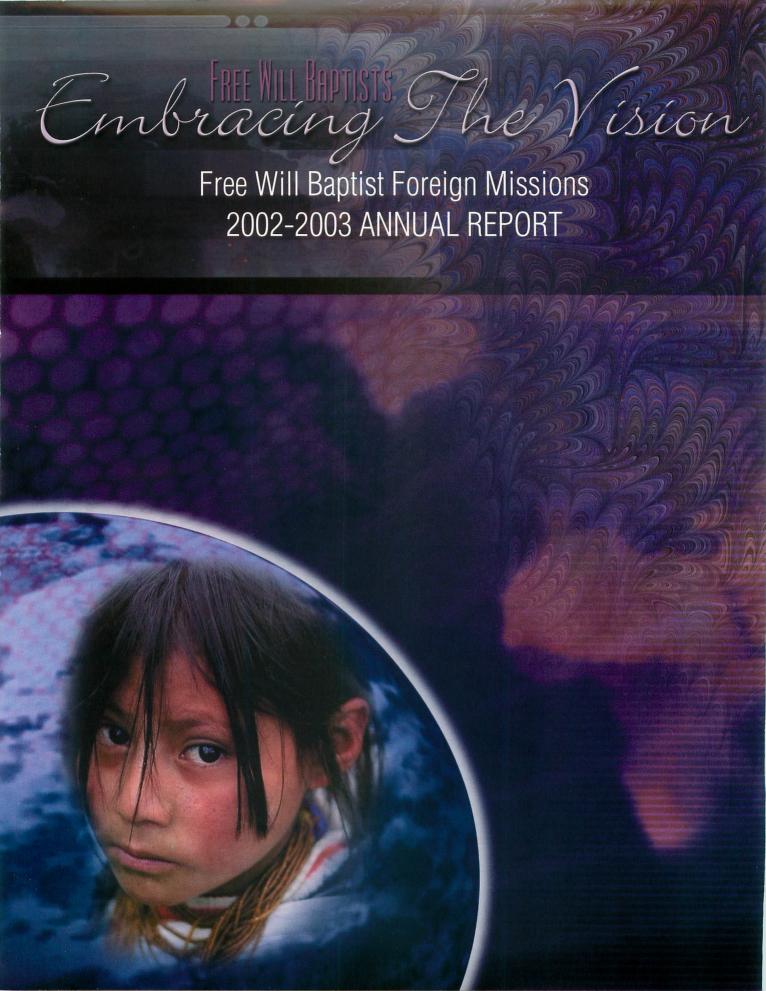
John Weaver (above) and Mike Cousineau (below, left) will be the featured speakers at the joint Home and Foreign Missions rally in Tampa.

Home/Foreign Missions Rally Set for Tampa

The annual Home/Foreign Missions Rally is scheduled for Tuesday, July 22, at the National Association of Free Will Baptists meeting in Tampa, Fla. The joint rally is set for 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Tampa Convention Center, Ballroom A.

This year's featured speakers will be John Weaver who has been ministering in Afghanistan and Mike Cousineau, missionary to Côte d'Ivoire. John uniquely remained in Afghanistan even after the United States began bombing the Taliban and has written a book, "Inside Afghanistan."

Cousineau is expected to share his experiences during an armed robbery at International Christian Academy in Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire, and the evacuation of the students and missionaries during the coup d'etat last September.



Embracing The Vision

STRATEGY FOR GROWTH AND OUTREACH

"The Mission is positioning for a bold 21st century global advance.
This involves strategic planning, both on the field and stateside."

- James Forlines



On the Field

Receptive Fields—

We continue the harvest and challenge nationals with the Great Commission.

Resistant Fields—

We coordinate prayer and personal involvement to "pull down the strongholds of Satan."

Restricted Fields-

Project Restricted Access Countries is actively paving the way for Free Will Baptists to enter areas restricted regarding propagation of the gospel.

In the United States

Information-

Embracing the Vision video series (ETV I, II, III)—Over 700 churches are using these.

Teaching Missions Educator Series

Teachers in local churches are being equipped to include missions in their curriculum.

Missionary In Residence

The MIR program was started at FWBBC with projected involvement in other Free Will Baptist colleges. The Laura Belle Barnard House on campus was finished in November 2002

and dedicated in March 2003.

Inspiration-

Through media and personal ministry people are challenged to use their gifts, talents, resources, and abilities to advance the Kingdom.



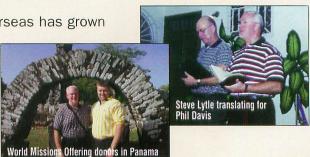
Great Commission Weekends are offered to challenge all people to become involved.

Involvement-

The number of high school and college students going overseas has grown 400% in the last four years.

Hundreds of people from local churches are now doing short-term missions trips.

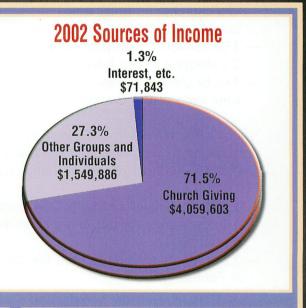
World Missions Offering donors of \$10,000 or more in 2002 received an awareness tour of Panama.

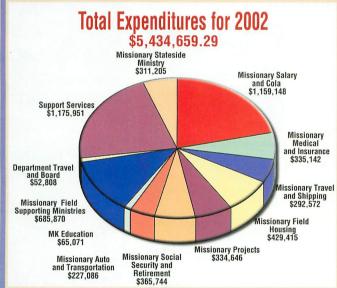




FIRE WILL BAPTISTS The Vision









Financial Summary - Cash Basis (unaudited)

Income Totals Expense Totals \$5,718,535.17

Cash and Investment Assets

Other Assets **Total Assets**

\$5,494,911.18

\$2,199,608.58 243,485.19 \$2,443,093.77

\$5,681,331.26 \$5,434,659.29 \$2,556,699.07 186,633.38 \$2,743,332.45

Embracing The Vision EVIDENCES OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Brazil

- Six churches in Brazil now average over 100 in attendance.
- 150 converts, 143 baptisms, 29 studying in two Bible institutes.
- Two Brazilians, Lucas and Osmir, were ordained in Campinas.

"Many other events in 2002 pale in comparison to the passing of the baton to Osmir." — Curt Holland (in Campinas)

Cuba

- 1,149 professions of faith, 284 baptisms, 16 new works started, three churches organized.
- 12 students graduated from the seminary in February 2003.

India

- 482 baptisms, 200 churches and 210 mission works reported in India and Nepal.
- 10 churches and over 300 believers acknowledged in Nepal.

Japan

- Six ordained pastors, one licensed preacher, and five lay preachers.
- Average attendance 196, 12 converts, seven baptisms.
- Several short-term English teachers served as instruments in strategy for evangelizing Japanese individuals.

"I had the privilege of baptizing Mr. Takaso, 84-year-old Iriso church member. He and his wife. Mrs. Takaso, both accepted Christ after the age of 80."

- Ken Bailey

Member Care

Foreign Missions involvement in the successful evacuation of the staff and students of International Christian Academy was initiated through efforts to provide member care for Free Will Baptist missionaries at ICA.

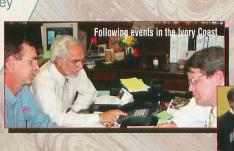














Embracing The Vision

EVIDENCES OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT



- Ivory Coast Missionaries evacuated, etc., but national believers standing firm.
 - Reports indicate every church but one has continued services.

Russia

- The building that houses the Chelyabinsk Affiliate of the Moscow Theological Institute was dedicated.
- Three different groups totaling 60 students are being taught.

France

- Two couples appointed as career missionaries.
- Nantes church building finished and dedicated.
- "M" Team grows to four couples.

Spain

- One ordained pastor, two lay preachers.
- Average attendance of 150.
- Effective outreach and growth among immigrants.
- New ministry launched by team in Alpedrete.

"After a long battle (10 years) the town council of Galapagar finally agreed to grant the Villalba church a building permit."

- Jeff Turnbough

Uruguay

- 5 ordained pastors, 17 conversions and 13 baptisms early in 2003.
- Video produced to advance the "Pro Templo" Fund and strategy for growth.









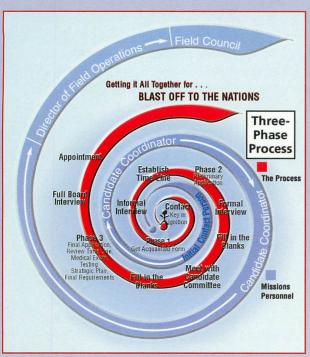
liland with Spain missionaries

Embracing The Vision MOBILIZATION GROWTH

Groups from California, Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Illinois, South Carolina, Alabama, Florida and other areas ministered in Panama, Brazil, Cuba, Côte d'Ivoire, Russia, Spain, Japan, and France.



Embracing The Vision PROSPECTIVE GROWTH



Candidates in Process

Phase 1—preliminary contact

Phase 2—preliminary application made; completing requirements

Phase 3—have received preliminary Board approval; working toward final Board approval

Brazil	India	Spain
Phase 1—2	Phase 2—1	Phase 1—5
Phase 2—3	Japan	Phase 2—5
France	Phase 1—4	PRAC
Phase 1—5	Phase 2—6	Phase 1—4
Phase 2—3	Phase 3—1	Phase 2—4
Ivory Coast Phase 1—1 Phase 3—2	Korea Phase 2—2 Panama Phase 2—2	Miscellaneous/ Unspecified Field Phase 1—76 Phase 2—7

New Ministries Opened



 Jonathan and Teresa Snow will seek to develop music programs to enhance the churchplanting strategy in Japan.

Russia

 A new Bible institute is to be started in the Krasnodar region, starting with the purchase or construction of a building to house the institute.



Support Services

New Video Magazine

 A new video magazine project is in the making to provide churches up-to-date news or inspirational material.

Director of Stateside Development

 A director of stateside development will begin his ministry in August of 2003.

New Programs to Begin

P.R.A.C. (Project Restricted Access Countries)

- A four-pronged strategy is being developed to reach into countries which restrict access to the gospel.
- A partnership is being developed with a group in Central Asia to provide avenues for service in restricted access countries.
- Partnerships with Free Will Baptist local churches and a Central Asia organization are planned for the purpose of opening new doors of opportunity for church planting.



Embracing The Vision Opportunities for Growth and Service

Spain

- 5 missionary teams, or 15 units for church planting
- 1 team or 2-4 missionary units for a camp/retreat ministry
- 1 team or 2-4 missionary units for a university ministry
- 1 team or 2-4 missionary units for a ministry to immigrants
- Missionary team to minister to Muslims

Japan

- Church-planting teams for Tokyo (30 million people) and Sapporo (2 million people)
- English teachers to teach conversational English as a part of church-planting efforts
- Certified teachers for Hokkaido International School (HIS) and Christian Academy of Japan (CAJ)

France

- 1 or 2 couples for leadership training program and literature publication
- 5 church-planting couples
- University ministry team
- Evangelistic team using the arts as their means of communication
- Short-term building teams

Russia

- Coordinator/Facilitator for FWB activities throughout the country
- Resident instructor to develop and teach courses in Russia and CIS (with master's or doctoral degree in theological or biblical studies)
- Short-term: professors to teach specialized courses, pastors and other specialists to teach seminars and conferences

Uruguay

Church planters for Montevideo

Panama

- Couple to develop music ministries in local churches and at the denominational level
- Pastors to make short-term trips to teach
 Panamanian leaders what they have learned
 and practiced in their ministry

Ivory Coast

- Church planters
 - 4 for urban centers, 5 for sous-prefectures, 2 among Muslims, 2 for unreached peoples
- 2 missionaries for curriculum development

P.R.A.C.

- 5 Pro-Vol teams
- 10 high school seniors, 10 college juniors or seniors for 2-4 week summer camp ministry
- Well-drilling teams
- 5 English teachers for Central Asia

Brazil

- Church planters for São Paulo; church planters for Minas Gerais
- Teachers for international schools (master's degree required) to assist missionaries in Belo Horizonte and Minas Gerais. No Portuguese necessary.

Korea

- Professors to teach modular courses in missions, FWB doctrine and practice, and theology in Bible Institute (2004)
- Short-term teachers to teach English in Bible institute

A number of our fields can handle short-term groups for 1-4 weeks, depending on the size of the group, the purpose of the trip, and the number of missionary and national coordinators and hosts.





Participants in a family retreat in Uberlândia, Brazil, receive instruction during one study session.

92 Attend Retreat During Carnaval

A family retreat was held by the Second Free Will Baptist Church in Uberlândia, Brazil, during the week of Carnaval, March 3-5. A total of 92 people from the ages of three months to 65 years attended the retreat which was held at a deactivated agricultural school about 10 miles from town.

Christian growth and responsibility were emphasized by Wesley Silva and Claudimar, lay speakers from a Regular Baptist church.

Snows Return to Ministry in Japan

Nathan and Linda Snow and their family returned to Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan, on March 26 after a year of stateside assignment.

"Because of your prayers and financial support we are now back home in Japan," write the Snows. "We praise the Lord for the spiritual growth our current

Nathan and Linda Snow have returned to their ministry in Japan.





The new Laura Belle Barnard House (above) for missionaries in residence at Free Will Baptist Bible College was dedicated on March 11. Volunteers and participants in the renovation of the house were honored (right) at a special luncheon.

mission church is experiencing. It was encouraging to be able to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Sasaki on their salvation and baptism during our absence."

L.B. Barnard House Dedicated at FWBBC

The Missionary In Residence house, officially named the Laura Belle Barnard House, at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., was dedicated on March 11 during the annual Bible Conference. The remodeling of the former Boyce House on Richland Avenue was a joint project between the college and Foreign Missions. It was totally refurbished, largely by volunteer labor, and furnished by women of WNAC.

Recognized were Tim Polston, the general contractor; Randy Hood, floor plan designer; Janie Greenway, interior decorator; Joe and Hazel McLamb, whose initial \$50,000 gift made the MIR house a possibility; the Master's Men organization for their volunteer labor; the Bible college administration and staff and many others who contributed toward making this a reality.

Volunteers and workers who participated in getting the house ready were honored at a

luncheon served by the Foreign Missions staff. This was followed by an open house as the Curt and Mary Holland family, current missionaries in residence, hosted the visitors.

Demolition on the house started in January and the Hollands moved in on November 1.

News Capsules

Kingsport, Tenn.—Pastor Winston Sweeney, long-time missions supporter and father of former missionary to France Dawn Sweeney, died on March 3 in east Tennessee. Sweeney pastored Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church in Kingsport, Tenn., for over 43 years. Funeral services were held in the church on March 6.

Beckley, W.Va.—Mrs. Lottie Sturgill, mother of Brazil missionary Jim Sturgill and former missionary Pat Franks, underwent surgery on April 17 at Raleigh General Hospital in Beckley, W.Va., due to colon cancer. Latest reports indicated the surgery was successful.

Nashville, Tenn.—Houston Owen Ganey, father-in-law of General Director James Forlines, died on March 23 in Nashville at the age of 71. He had served 43 years in pastoral

News In Review

ministry. The funeral was held at Woodbine Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville on March 27 and interment was held in Rockingham, N.C., on March 29.

Florence, S.C.—Miss Mirial Gainer, missionary to Japan, underwent surgery on her eye on March 4 to remove a growth. Reports indicate the growth was benign.

Uruguay—Missionary Barker reported a family camp held in Rivera, Uruguay, March 1-6 with 80 people represent-

GIFTS FROM THE HEART

These special gifts were received in February and March 2003:

Donor In Memory of Anonymous Ruth Perry Betty J. Ashby Hobart Ashby Dayton, Ohio Rev. Andy Dahl Gainesville, Fla. Irene Waurzynski Bessie Barefoot Rev. Robert Crawford Winterville, N.C. Steve and Judy Lytle Rev. Winston Sweeney Nelda A. Etheridge

These gave special gifts in memory of Marvis Eagleton: Gordon and Eleanor Hart FWB Foreign Missions Avden N.C. Antioch, Tenn.

Mr. and Mrs. David G. Billingsley

Rev. Homer Willis Nashville, Tenn. Peggy M. Willett Asheville, N.C.

Collierville, Tenn

Jim and Olena McLain

Greentop, Mo.

Donor Senior Adult Class First FWB Church Amory, Miss

Linda Pinion Union City, Tenn.

East Nashville FWB WAC Nashville, Tenn

Joe Etheridge

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Johnson Knightdale, N.C.

Wendell and Lucille Steward Royal Oak, Mich.

Tom and Nancy Hughes Antioch, Tenn

In Honor of Jerry Atwell

Charlie Hingst

Ivory Coast Missionaries

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ing all six of the Uruguay Free Will Baptist churches attending. Ten people made decisions for Christ.

Greeley, Col.—Roy Thomas, retired general director of Home Missions, died on March 23 at his home in Greeley, Col., after having battled pancreatic cancer for several months. Funeral services were held on March 28 in Greelev.

Uruguay—Six people from the Free Will Baptist church in Melo, Uruguay, were baptized in March in a creek near Melo. Paul Robinson, former missionary on short-term assignment, participated.

India—Carlisle Hanna was scheduled to arrive in the United States from India at the end of April to begin a short stateside assignment.

Brenda Hanna, Spouse Injured in Accident

Brenda Kay Hanna Roach and her husband, Michael, sustained severe injuries and numerous broken bones in a terrible motorcycle accident on April 5 in Conway, S.C.

The couple was airlifted to Charleston where they underwent multiple surgeries to repair the breaks. At last report both were recovering slowly in a rehab center. They sustained no apparent head or spinal injuries.

180 Attend Family Retreat in Brazil

A family retreat was held at Camp El Shammah (God is present) in Jaboticabal, São Paulo, Brazil. The retreat was held March 1-5 during the Mardi-Gras Carnaval season. Accord-





Jerry and Carol Pinkerton (top) and Robert and Pam West (bottom) plan to return to the Ivory Coast.

ing to Bobby and Geneva Poole, the theme of the retreat was built around Christian character: "Who are you when no one is looking?"

Two Couples to Return to Côte d'Ivoire Field

Two missionary couples, Jerry and Carol Pinkerton and Robert and Pam West, are scheduled to return to their ministry in Côte d'Ivoire at the end of June.

Following a special meeting with Ivory Coast missionaries on April 1 in which they reviewed conditions in the country, Steve Lytle, director of field operations, gave tentative approval for the two couples to return to the Abidjan area.

Moore Says Church Teen Group Growing

"Since the family retreat during Carnaval (March 3-5), the numbers of our teen meetings have increased," writes Andy Moore from Uberlândia, Brazil. "The week before last we had 22 and last week we had 17."

Moore indicated the church's attendance also is growing with over 80 people attending Sunday school.





Patsy Vanhook and Richard, a cooperating pastor, assemble a bookcase for the bookstore in Nantes, France. The store (right) is located on a busy street and is very

Four Converted at St. Sebastien, France

According to missionaries Dennis and Carol Teague in St. Sebastien, France, four people were converted recently: a couple and a lady in their 40s and a young man in his early 20s.

The Teagues indicated two families from other churches had joined recently and are very devoted. "One of the women is very artistic and painted a manger scene at Christmas on our big window right on the sidewalk," write the Teagues.

Dennis and Carol indicated they were running out of room for their Sunday morning services. They plan to add space by eliminating a classroom.

Villalba Church Given **Permission to Build**

According to word from missionary Jeff Turnbough on April 4, "the Villalba church may build." After 10 years of ups and downs, the city government finally granted permission to build the church.

Before they can build, the congregation must contact architects to revise the plans, have the revised plans approved by the School of Architects in Madrid, and submit the revised

plans to the city architect. Then they must find the money with which to build and contract a construction company to begin the project.

Vanhook Reports Bookstore Opening

On April 17 Miss Patsy Vanhook wrote, "I'm sitting at the computer in the office of the bookstore waiting for my first customer of the afternoon to arrive. This is our third day to be open for business and I've already had a couple of interesting conversations." The new Christian bookstore effort in Nantes, France, is designed to provide an avenue for outreach around the area.

Patsy urged people to ask God to give her wisdom and compassion in listening to and responding to people who have little true understanding of spiritual things.

Patsy indicated \$15,000 was still needed for the bookstore project.

Turnbough Cites Three Professions of Faith

"Alex, Rubiela, and Luz have all expressed openly their decision to follow Christ," reported Jeff Turnbough from Villalba, Spain, in late April. "These are members of our Friday night group Bible study."

"The three Colombians had traveled to Spain to seek employment but found something eternally more important," says Jeff. He urged people to pray for the spiritual growth of these converts.

FINANCIAL BEAT

Through March 2003

Income for February\$	567.611.30
Income for March	463,591.88
Income through March 1,	331,281.37
Total expenses through March	
Total 2003 Budget (including VISION projects)\$ 12,	362,657.85

These accounts are	in the deficit:		
Bailey, K\$	1,242.04	Poole\$	2,472.65
Chang	13,348.47	Sturgill	6,668.29
Griffin	868.15	Vandivort	285.94
Hanna	19,264.10	India Bible Inst	32.532.80
Holland, C	5,404.58	Russian Ministries	7,449,99
Martens	22 032 10	+Support Services	449 791 86

+The April World Missions Offering should help to significantly lower this deficit.

These accounts are I	ow and need	dy:	
Bishop\$	25.66	McDonald\$	3,116,12
Gainer	4,337.70	McVay	1,522,27
Gibbe	2 275 06	Diggs	2 210 60

STATES IN ACTION

Idaho. 201.08 718.18 1,044 Illinois 21,285.66 35,011.15 59,540 Indiana 5,886.41 15,546.14 17,972 Iowa 668.22 620.44 668 Kansas 177.24 545.73 33 Kentucky 3,545.94 17,123.24 16,399 Louisiana 0.00 1,820.00 80 Maryland 5,150.78 18,291.02 20,130 Michigan 13,451.76 40,037.50 42,766 Mississippi 7,499.98 24,057.94 18,632 Missouri 38,905.58 117,761.11 125,174 Montana 50.00 590.00 675 Nebraska 0.00 500.00 1,500. New Mexico 112,94 255.97 112.	hru 2003
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Oklahoma	
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Totals\$ 462,973.70 \$1,196,345.18 \$1,331,008	8.56

*Northeast Association

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

*Northwest Association Alaska, Oregon and Washington

Note: Miscellaneous includes miscellaneous sources, states and interest



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Forlines' Focus

By James Forlines, General Director

Paradigm Limitation Syndrome

In Luke 16 Jesus told a parable about an unjust steward. As a business manager the man was guilty of wasting his master's resources. His master found out, but before he could fire him, the steward "cut a deal" with his master's creditors. When his master heard about it, instead of being angry he "commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely." In a final comment on the parable Jesus said, "...for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light."

Though disagreements exist on the interpretation of this parable, we can be certain of a few things. Unsaved individuals are in many ways wiser in worldly things than God's children are in matters relating to His cause. People after the dollar are industrious, seizing opportunities and exerting themselves to advance their interests.

The opportunities and challenges in world evangelism today demand our utmost—spiritually,

sacrificially, and strategically. Hindrances in each of these areas must be dealt with. One major impediment to advancing His cause around the world is what I will refer to as *paradigm limitation syndrome* (PLS for short).

A paradigm is a set of assumptions that determine how we think, feel and act about a particular issue. Paradigms are necessary to provide order to our lives, but sometimes they bring damaging limitations (PLS). Our *efforts* in world evangelism are directly related to how we *think* we should be involved.

Past Limitations

In the past a theological paradigm limited Free Will Baptist involvement in world evangelism. Some (even pastors and leaders) believed we had no responsibility to evangelize the heathen. They reasoned it was God's judgment on the heathen that had left them with no witness. Our early missionaries labored to overcome this PLS. To a large extent they were successful.

Do any paradigms limit us today? Perhaps many who should be personally involved in world evangelism have a "paradigm" (or an idea) of a missionary which keeps them from considering themselves in that role. Some of our current PLSs might include these:

- 1. God only calls young people to be missionaries.
- 2. You have to be a preacher, or married to one, to be a missionary.
- 3. All missionaries have to raise support to go to the field.

We will always pursue young people called by God to serve as career church-planting missionaries, but they are not the only ones God calls. God is working to break through our preconceived notions. Middle-aged adults like Doug and Patty Chamberlin are leaving careers in the States to find involvement "on the field." Read their story on pages two and three.

Perhaps you have developed a skill or obtained specialized training that could be used on a shortterm assignment.

Opportunities are opening for retirees to invest some of their life in direct ministry of reaching the unreached at little or no cost to the Mission.

Secular business leaders are relentless in their pursuit of financial gain. That's their bottom line. They go to elaborate lengths to think "outside the box." And for what? Money! Should we not be equally relentless in pursuit of souls?

James Forlines