



# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

JULY  
AUGUST  
2004

**Showing God at work around the world**



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a Bookstore*  
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# Pages from a Bookstore

By Patsy Vanhook

\*Names have been changed.

## In the bookstore the Lord gives opportunities to listen and share the hurts and struggles of real people.

**I**'ve just ended a 21-year relationship," she blurted, eyes glistening with tears. As I closed the cash drawer and handed her the books she had just purchased, all the hurt and confusion came rushing out. The heartache of a broken relationship, memories from a childhood of feeling unloved, and unwise decisions in her youth spilled forth.

I handed her a box of Kleenex. Then she laughed through her tears and said, "I'm so glad I was able to say all that! I feel much better now." She walked out the door of the Christian bookstore in Nantes, France, and I thought to myself, "Patsy, this is why you were here today."

That was the beginning of several visits from Mireille\*. Since then we've drunk tea and eaten homemade ginger cookies together. She has shared her struggles with being alone and her difficulty in finishing a doctoral thesis. I have recommended several other books to her. And I've added another name to my prayer list,

asking God to grow her "nebulous" faith into a true faith in Jesus and the salvation He offers.

The Lord has brought into the bookstore several people who have felt free to open their hearts and share the pain inside. I'm reminded of the young man who disclosed his grief over his wife's decision to end their marriage. He realized, as a Christian, he needed to make every effort to avoid divorce.

*The Lord has brought into the bookstore several people who have felt free to open their hearts and share the hurts inside.*

Another quiet, shy man lives alone and struggles with that loneliness. Recently he recounted his sorrow over a depressed sister who isn't willing to consider the Lord's help in conquering her depression. I also think of the lady



*Patsy uses the computer (top) to order books and keep records. A customer (below) browses the postcard display.*

who shared her grief over the death of her husband. She is also distressed for her adult children. They are still unable to come to grips with the loss of their father.

Besides providing a listening ear and offering comforting words, running a Christian bookstore includes a lot of practical tasks. Selecting and ordering books, preparing them for the





Two ladies (left) look through the Christian books in the bookstore in Nantes, France, to make their selections. Patsy attends two customers (right) who are ready to make their purchases. She seeks opportunity to minister to their needs.



shelves, selling them and recording sales and expenses are part of a routine day.

But the opportunities the Lord gives to listen and share the hurts and struggles of real people are the greater responsibility and privilege. Only through His grace and compassion can I respond as His instrument.

It is thrilling to provide a new Christian with her first Bible. It is equally fulfilling to help a man select a Bible to aid him in learning more about the Lord.

I can still see the pleasure on the face of a young gypsy as he handled the new Bible he would use to evangelize his fellow gypsies. A young couple recently stopped in to buy a supply of items. They planned to use the materials to witness to the gypsy group that frequently stops in their community.

It was rewarding to be able to place a Russian-language Bible in the hands of Elisabeth\*. She wanted to share her faith with new neighbors who speak

very little French, but do speak Russian. It was exciting to see Colette\* walk out the door with an Arabic New Testament. She hoped to pass it on to someone during her vacation in North Africa.

*I'm grateful the bookstore could supply a nurse with Bibles and New Testaments to give to the people to whom she witnesses.*

I'm grateful the bookstore could supply a nurse with Bibles and New Testaments to give to the people to whom she witnesses. A sense of satisfaction fills me as I pack a bag with

Bibles for the local Protestant military chaplain. He will carry them to far-flung places to share with the soldiers to whom he ministers.

Not every encounter in the bookstore seems important. Jacques\* chose a book about hospital stays from our window display. Before his grandmother could pay for the book, the little boy must have handled 15 items all around the shop. One man bought the book, *Jesus Was A Jew*, from the display window. He returned 15 minutes later asking if he had left it on the counter. I hope he was able to retrace his steps and find where he'd left it.

Postcards displayed at the door draw people into the bookstore. I've had several people comment on the

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Don Robirds, Layout and Design

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# In the Face of FEAR!

By Brian A.C. Ellison



Brian Ellison prepares to videotape scenes overlooking Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

The emergency door was wide open and the handle mangled. The odor like that of a musty apartment was heightened by the brown and faded-orange color scheme.

"So this is Tajik Air," I thought.

I took a seat behind the emergency exit row and smiled at one of the 12 men participating in a ProVol trip to Dushanbe, Tajikistan. One of my assignments was to document their experience.

A stewardess prevented anyone from sitting next to the open emergency exit door. Soon two bulky Tajik men in suits entered the plane and

took the guarded seats. A dumpy man followed them, sat next to the emergency door and closed it. He packed his luggage against the unlatched door and hung clothes on the damaged handle.

***My imagination pieced together the events and created an impending terrorist attack.***

A sense of unease brewed in my heart. A couple moved from the back of the plane and sat in front of me.



Tamara, widow of Sergej Bessarab, sits with a friend in the Isfara church.

Opening a cell phone, they removed the battery and replaced a small chip. A pilot latched the emergency door, yet the door didn't look sealed.

My imagination pieced together the events and created an impending terrorist attack on this small plane full of Americans. Other team members expressed the same fears.

Friends and family had demonstrated anxiety about my traveling to a Muslim land. I had assured them I would be okay, regardless of the outcome. I was ready to meet the Lord. Now my thoughts were different.

"God, I know Your ways aren't my ways. If you choose to take us now,





*Brian stands with members of the Tajik soccer team he witnessed to on the airplane.*

You are doing what is right. But, God, I can't see how dying in a plane crash before we even begin this missions trip will bring You glory."

The plane moved into place on the runway. I knew if I didn't act it could be my fault if the plane went down. I'm no hero and had no plan. I asked the man with the cell phone if he spoke English. He did. So, I asked what they had been doing.

His answer was quick. "We were changing out the GSM chip. Please take your seat." I thanked him and sat down, partially satisfied. I began to pray, asking for faith and strength.

The flight was rough. We seemed to drop 1,000 feet in two seconds and then climb again. Then we dived until I was certain the ground was inches away.

Another passenger changed the chip in his phone and I learned you do need to change cell phone chips when you travel to different countries. I grinned at myself.

"That's okay," I thought. "I can be a silly American." But I realized I had played the fool in the devil's game. He had tried to intimidate me and it worked.

The plane ride never smoothed out. We seemed to land headfirst. Yet,

when the flight was over we were fine. I knew a battle still lay ahead and wondered if I was ready.

Two days later I returned to take on Tajik Air once again. My primary responsibility on this trip was to create a documentary on Sergej Bessareb, a Christian murdered for starting a church in the city of Isfara. Our translator Luba, team member Craig Portell and I were traveling to northern Tajikistan to interview people who had known Sergej and to videotape places where he'd ministered.

***I wanted to share the gospel with them, but was quickly bombarded with fear.***

This flight posed a different challenge. We were surrounded by a Tajik soccer team. They wanted to know why Americans were in their country. I wanted to share the gospel with them, but was quickly bombarded with fear.

"What if they get angry? What if they tell someone what you are doing and jeopardize the video? Are you ready to die for Christ?" I pulled out an EvangeCube and shared the message of Christ with a few of them.



*This is outside the small church where Sergej Besserab was murdered.*

One young man took the cube and with gleaming eyes said in Russian, "I know this story." Although he wasn't a believer, he asked for the cube. Others on the team wanted one as well. Luba assured me people from the church would hand-deliver them. Thank God, I didn't let fear win!

Two men met us at the airport. We reviewed and revised the shoot schedule. Then we set out to interview Sergej Besserab's mother. Her testimony emphasized the grace of God. Sergej had been violent and involved with drugs, grieving her constantly. When he came to Christ his life changed so drastically she was also compelled to become a Christian.

The next day I took footage of every piece of culture in Isfara possible. We stopped at a mosque and were allowed to walk inside the gates and videotape the inner buildings. Craig and I were invited to enter the temple—without our cameras. It was like walking through a cave lined with pillars. The sun shone through narrow windows grazing the heads of a class of small children. On the other side of the room two corpses lay side-by-side, wrapped in a red cloth.

Our next major stop was the equiv-

*Continued on page 6* ➔



# In the Face of FEAR!



Christians in Tajikistan hold a service.

—>Continued from page 5

alent of a city hall. As I was videotaping the location, a city official greeted us and inquired our purpose. Luba told him I was videotaping the “touristy” sites and capturing the culture. She then became nervous. The mayor lives across from the rundown house used for the church. It wouldn’t take a genius to figure out with whom we were affiliated. Satan began once again to attack our minds with fear.

We traveled outside the city into the mountainous terrain. I needed a high place to videotape the entire city. Our plan was solid—until little droplets began to splash against the windshield. They were followed by a wave of rain smearing our view of the road ahead.

A haze fell over the city, but I decided to try to get the footage anyway. We pulled off the road and prayed. I asked God to take away the rain.

Craig and I trudged up the mountain.

By the time we reached the peak

and set up the camera the rain was virtually gone and the city was visible. I shot the footage and returned to the van. Luba said, “Strong prayer.” I replied, “Strong God!” Fear and discouragement did not have the victory this day.

***“I have not given you the spirit of fear but...of love.”***

That evening I interviewed Sergej’s wife, Tamara, and her daughter at the church. Their testimonies were powerfully honest. I was moved by the grace of God in the midst of tragedy. I then interviewed Sergej Besserab’s friend in the church sanctuary. It was there Sergej was murdered while enjoying intimate time with the Lord.

Craig told us he thought he’d seen the official from city hall visit the mayor. I became focused on my surroundings. It was dark and gloomy. Cars stopped for what seemed like

ages before moving on. People walked up to the mayor’s house and stayed longer than appeared necessary. The wind screamed as if the prince of the air were howling curses at us. I knew the spirit of fear was back and ready to devour me. Then God began to speak to my heart.

“I have not given you the spirit of fear but...of love.”

I continued my work, repeating these words in my heart. I was not afraid, even though Satan was doing all he could to intimidate me. I knew God wanted me to complete this task. I fought the spirit of fear for the remainder of the night.

Throughout the rest of our trip, God showed me His love and Satan’s attacks became less fierce. God blessed me with a spirit of boldness. I pray I will never forget I have not been given a spirit of fear, but of power and love.

Brian Ellison has worked on video projects for Foreign Missions since 2000. He has been employed as full-time videographer since January 2003.

***Brian poses with three colorfully dressed Tajik children.***

***American team members cut a panel for the repair of a Sunday school room in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.***







*Clockwise, a lady browses and appears interested in a book on the shelf, Patsy makes change for a lady who just made a purchase, and she opens the store for the business day.*

## *Pages from a Bookstore*

→ *Continued from page 3*

beauty of our selection. I can't help but smile when I think of the children who select a Bible storybook. Often they won't let go of it long enough for me to register the purchase.

We still have people who enter out of curiosity. They ask about the kind of books we sell and quickly leave when told they are Christian books. But who knows? One day they may feel a need and return.

The bookstore sits in a metropolitan area of a half-million people. Less than one percent of these are evangelical Christians. How grateful I am for those from the small evangelical community who come in to purchase Christian books and Bibles.

I always look forward to the visits of Karine. She comes to buy gifts for friends and family and books for her own enrichment. Cécile visits often.

She'll look for a book for herself, or one to share with someone in the student ministry of which she is a part. A young couple have come several times just to look over the selection of books and CDs. Recently they went away with a praise CD as a gift for his mother.

***I can still see the pleasure on the face of a young gypsy as he handled the new Bible he would use to evangelize his fellow gypsies.***

Since I committed myself to running the first evangelical Christian bookstore in the Nantes area, I have wondered at times if the results were worth the effort. But when I remember all the Lord's blessings, I am hum-

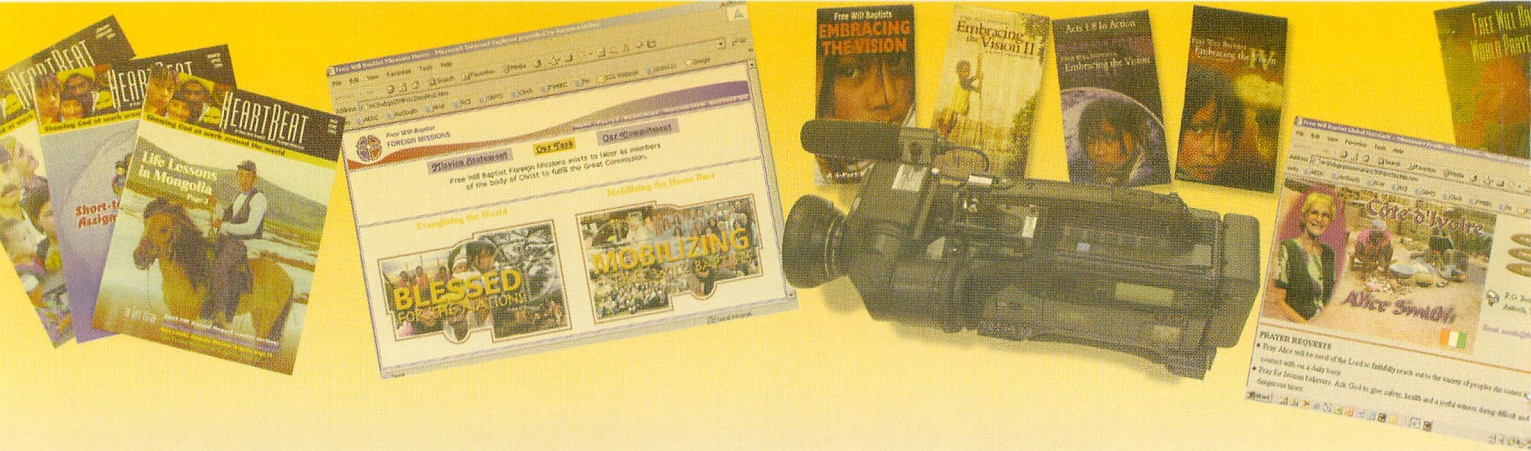


bled. He has given me the opportunity to touch many lives for His kingdom. I am encouraged to continue – knowing His plans are for my good, to give me a hope and a reward.

This ministry merits all the time and effort I, and those who so faithfully and willingly help me, can give it. It also deserves the prayers of all whose hearts are burdened by the deep spiritual needs of people in France. I'm praying this bookstore, Le Livre, will be a place of light for the Lord in Nantes for many years to come.

Miss Patsy Vanhook has served in France since 1974 in the cities of St. Nazaire, St. Sebastien and Nantes. The bookstore opened April 15, 2003.





**I**nformation! Information is crucial for missions efforts to be successful.

Why do you read *HEARTBEAT* magazine? Most likely you have some interest in world evangelism and you want to keep up with how Free Will Baptists are involved. Public Relations is the “heartbeat” of any missions agency. Perhaps that is one reason our publication is called *HEARTBEAT*.

Information brings awareness. From this awareness an appreciation is formed and action follows. It is impossible to pray for, financially support, or personally become involved in something you know nothing about.

***Today's generation has grown up with video games, computers and the Internet.***

In the last few generations the manner in which people receive and process information has changed drastically. Those in my parents' generation were auditory learners. Radio was a major source of entertainment. They grew up without television. Reading was highly valued and many people kept up with current events by reading the newspaper.

Today's generation has grown up with video games, computers and the Internet. They are a visual generation. Information is processed better if it can be seen. Many of them rarely read a newspaper. Instead, they get automatic updates on-line or visit network

# Changes in Pu

***By James Forline***

Web sites for breaking news.

However, this generation does not have a monopoly on computer expertise. The technological wave has swept across the length and breadth of our land. In February of this year, a Nielsen study found almost 75% of people in the United States have access to the Internet from their homes. This includes 63.4% of those over the age of 55. [See the table below.]

This information has helped propel the changes that have occurred at Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions. In

January of 2004 the Public Relations department was restructured into three divisions: Print Media, Computer Media, and Video Media. It is part of our ongoing attempt to provide the best, fastest and most accurate information to Free Will Baptist people about international Mission news.

Deborah St. Lawrence was the editorial assistant to Don Robirds for five and a half years. Upon Don's retirement at the end of 2003 she became editor of *HEARTBEAT* and is in charge of all print publications. Though need for newer technologies continues to increase, we will always need prayer cards, missionary maps, missionary directories, world prayer guides, and other printed resources. Please contact Deborah (deborah@nafwb.org) to obtain a list of printed resources for use in your church. Many of these items are provided without cost.

Because of the explosion in Internet use, we decided to make a concerted investment in on-line resourcing. Cheri Ham has worked for the Mission for seven and a half years. She was responsible for the computer system in the entire National Offices building. Her new assignment is to develop and maintain a fully interactive and continuously updated Web site. It will be unveiled, along with the new

Internet Access Penetration (U.S., Home)	
Group	Penetration
Females 35-54	81.7%
Males 35-54	80.2%
Females 25-34	77.0%
Males 25-34	75.6%
All 2-17	77.6%
All 18-24	75.0%
All 55+	63.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>74.9%</b>
Source: Nielsen//NetRatings Enumeration Study, February 2004	

<http://www.clickz.com/news/article.php/3328091>





# Public Relations

s, general director

Web address, at the National Association in Kansas City, Mo.

Our ultimate goal is to provide on-line access to all our resources. This includes video clips, PowerPoint presentations, application forms, missions mobilization materials and more. Our hope is that you can find everything you need for international missions efforts on this one site.

The third area is Video Media. Brian Ellison is an accomplished videographer and scriptwriter. These are essential in his new responsibilities with *Impulse* and Tekmerion Productions.

Over the last four years we have produced *Embracing The Vision I, II, III and IV*. These videos are designed to challenge the local church, corporately and individually, to understand and accept a personal role and responsibility in world evangelism. In short, the challenge is for all of our churches to be outwardly focused toward their Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

*Impulse*, a quarterly video magazine, will bring stories from the field to your church. These professional videos will be short enough (two to five minutes each) for churches to use for missions moments on Sunday morning. This subscription-based re-

source is an ideal way to learn what God is doing around the world through Free Will Baptists. Volume one of *Impulse* will be available at the 2004 National Association.

***In January of 2004 the Public Relations department was restructured into three divisions: Print Media, Computer Media, and Video Media.***

Tekmerion Productions is the film division of Free Will Baptist Foreign

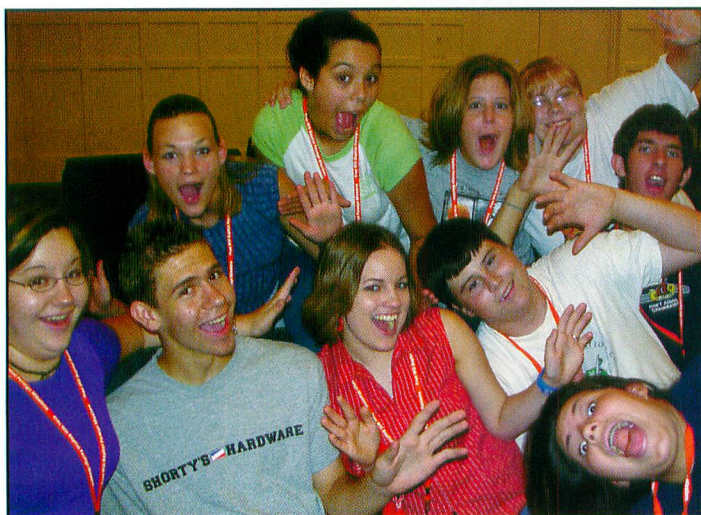
Missions. The first short film was shot on location in Isfara, Tajikistan. This is where, in January of 2004, Sergej Bessarab was shot and killed while having personal devotions in the sanctuary. Sergej and his wife Tamara were there to plant a church in the city. In the entire history of Isfara there has never been a church of any kind, though there are 126 registered mosques. This gripping story of a modern day martyr will be an excellent resource to remind us of the high cost of church planting among Muslims. It will be available in September of 2004.

As you can see, we are trying to adjust and adapt to the ever-changing landscape of communications. We will seek to be current and relevant while maintaining the Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions heritage which has been passed down to us.

***General Director James Forlines (center) meets with the public relations staff in the Raymond Riggs Conference Room of Foreign Missions: (left to right) assistant Tracy Jennette, Deborah St. Lawrence, Cheri Ham and Brian Ellison.***







*E-TEAM participants have a fun time (left) and experience teamwork challenges (right) during the comprehensive training session in June at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn.*

## Seven High School Teams Deployed

Seven high school groups received comprehensive training during the week of June 14-20 at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., as part of the E-TEAM 2004 program. The E-TEAMS were sent out June 21 to minister in the United States and overseas and are to return July 5.

Participants are listed below:

**E-TEAM Chicago 2004**—Lindsey Coward, Scranton, S.C.; Tyler Cross, Jasper, Ala.; Suzanne Dean, Bethpage, Tenn.; Elisabeth Franks, Madison, Ala.; Joshua McLaney, Ozark, Ala.; Katie Peterson, McDavid, Fla.; Jacob Phelps, Oologah, Okla.; Katelynne Sherman, Purcell, Okla.; and Katherine Walker, Nashville, Tenn. Team intern: Joshua Crowe.

**E-TEAM Brazil 2004**—Amanda Agin, Raleigh, Ill.; Rachel Atwood, Antioch, Tenn.; Rhonda Cantley, Coward, S.C.; Alex Copley, Mt. Gilead, Ohio; Adam Johnston, Benton, Ill.; Benjamin Mabra, Woodward, Okla.; Kerrie Morgan, Liberal, Mo.; Hannah Postlewaite, Florence S.C.; and Jessica Whitworth, Pleasant View, Tenn. Team intern: Susan Eastridge; Team leaders: David and Pat Shores.

**E-TEAM Hokkaido 2004**—Kristyn Bauermann, Marietta, Ga.; Timothy Ewing, Greenwood, Ark.; Jessica Folsom, Glennville, Ga.; Mahalie Garrison, Darlington, S.C.; David Gibson, Florence, S.C.; Matthew Riley, Chicago, Ill.; Jonah Taylor, Dothan, Ala.; Ashley Turner, West Plains, Mo.; Joel Walden, Ashland, Ky.; and Laura

Williams, Pocahontas, Ark. Team intern: Shannon Little; Team leaders: Mark and Shannon McWhorter.

**E-TEAM Mexico 2004**—Tresa Barber, Lake Butler, Fla.; Joshua Coker, Iuka, Miss.; Jacquelyn Jackson, Jacksonville, N.C.; Jason McMillion, Aberdeen, Md.; Elizabeth Pool, Aulander, N.C.; Lindsey Reed, Springfield, Tenn.; Jennifer Scott, Mt. Vernon, Ill.; Zachery Smith, Greeneville, Tenn.; and Lauren Watts, Muldrow, Okla. Team intern: Rebecca Roberts; Team leaders: Tim and Terri Decresie.

**E-TEAM Panama 2004**—Rachel Collins, Harrisonburg, Va.; Celeste Davis, Charlotte, Tenn.; Gordon Jones, Wagoner, Okla.; Lindsey Parks, Pleasant View, Tenn.; Joshua Provov, Fredricktown, Mo.; Sarah Reel, Carrollton, Va.; Kelly Roberts, Elmwood park, Ill.; Allison Sowers, Kingston N.C.; Joshua Todd, Coweta, Okla.; and Haley Williams, Ada, Okla. Team intern: Cherith Taylor; Team leaders: Michael and Wendy Walker.

**E-TEAM St. Croix 2004**—Katherine Caldwell, Warren, Ark.; Whitney Dodds, Rienzi, Miss.; Laura Grice, Wheelersburg, Ohio; Sarah Moore, St. Charles, Mo.; Jennifer Neal, Houston, Mo.; BreeAnna Teel, New Windsor, Ill.; and Christopher White, Scranton, S.C. Team intern: Tina Sizemore; Team leaders: Tyler and Kellie Penn.

**E-TEAM Uruguay 2004**—Shane Brown, Rose Bud, Ark.; Devon Coward, Scranton, S.C.; Hannah Fletcher, Antioch, Tenn.; Katie Hicks, Mt. Vernon, Ill.; Daniel Judkins, Monticello, Ark.; Kelly Meagher, Cisne, Ill.; Cody Pratt, Mascoutah, Ill.; Karrie Robertson, Catoosa, Okla.; Whitney Stafford, Bell Buckle, Tenn.; and Brittinay Staller, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Team intern: Bethany Parks; Team leaders: Shane and Joy Davison.

## Anderson Retrieves Belongings from Bouna

Missionary Verlin Anderson left Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, on May 31 to travel to rebel-controlled Bouna, his family's home prior to the October 2002 attempted coup. Rebel forces have occupied the home, but Verlin received permission to retrieve the family's personal belongings.

In addition to completing his task, Anderson was also able to deliver some medical supplies to the Doropo hospital. He returned to Abidjan without incident about a week later.

## Brazilian to Teach English in China

Paula Garcia, a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, traveled to the United States on June 8 for three weeks of intensive training. From there she was to go to China to teach English for three months with English Language Institute in China.

As a young girl Paula was taken to church by her grandmother. On Sunday nights she was placed in a nursery. One night she slipped out and sat quietly on the back





Leaving for their fields are (top, left to right) Bobby and Sue Aycock, Ken and Judy Bailey, and Dale and Sandra Bishop; (bottom, left to right) Stan and Brenda Bunch, Darrel and Lila Nichols and Jonathan and Teresa Snow.

# Six Couples Leave for Fields of Service

Six missionary families have departed, or will soon leave, for their fields of service.

Bobby and Sue Aycock completed a two-month assignment and returned to Barbacena, Brazil, June 20. Dale and Sandra Bishop returned to Hokkaido, Japan, on June 16, after a year stateside. Both couples will assist with E-TEAMS in their areas.

Ken and Judy Bailey were to return to Tokyo, Japan, on June 30. Stan and Brenda Bunch hope to leave for Chitre, Panama, on July 29. Darrel and Lila Nichols have completed language studies and plan to leave for a new ministry in Panama on August 1.

row to hear the service. She accepted Christ as her Savior that evening.

Paula evidenced an interest in English as a teen and eventually became certified to teach English in Brazil.

The Ribeirão Preto congregation raised the funds to pay for Paula's short-term missions trip.

## Villalba Women Plan Mother's Day Program

The women of the church in Villalba, Spain, planned a special program for May 2, Mother's Day in Spain. Three ladies shared what the Bible has to say about the various roles of women.

A teenage girl spoke on the need for young people to honor their parents and prepare for the way they will live their lives as adults. Two musical numbers were presented and the teen girls performed a skit.

## Three Baptized in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil

Bobby Poole reported the baptism of three people at the Marincek church in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, on June 6.

Baptized were Estevão and Rafael, two 10-year-old boys whose mothers are faithful

church members. Also baptized was João, a man whose wife left him following a stroke. João's cousin brought him to church, where he accepted Christ and has proven faithful.

### E-TEAM ALUMNI RECEPTION

For all participants since 1992:  
Team members, leaders, interns, and host missionaries

Sunday, July 18, 2004  
Time and place to be announced

Bring pictures, stories, etc.!

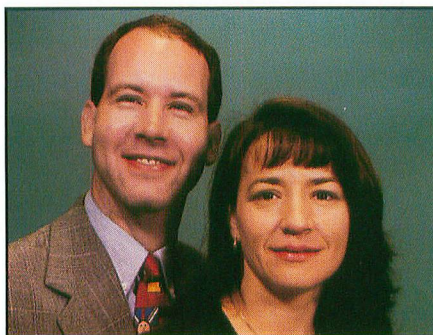


Short-term missionaries Jonathan and Teresa Snow and family are scheduled to depart for Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan, on July 7.

## Curt and Mary Holland Submit Resignation

In a letter dated June 1, 2004, Curt and Mary Holland submitted their resignation from Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions. The Hollands have spent the past two years serving at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., as Missionaries In Residence.

"This letter... is about moving on to another phase of our lives," wrote the Hollands. Curt and Mary plan to stay in the United States and see their three girls through their high school years.



*Curt and Mary Holland have resigned from missionary service in Brazil.*

During their last term on the field in São Jose, Campinas, Brazil, the couple began a church in their garage and nurtured it into a self-supporting congregation with a national pastor. Over the next few years the couple hopes to recruit a team of missionaries to return to Brazil with them.



*Shannon Little received an M.A. in Missions in May.*

## Shannon Little Receives Graduate Degree

Shannon Little, missionary to Japan, graduated from Wheaton College in Wheaton, Ill., with a M.A. in Missions and Intercultural Studies on May 8. Shannon, previously a R.N. at Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville, Tenn., served two years as a nurse at an international school in Sapporo, Japan.

Upon her return to the States, Shannon applied for career missionary service and was appointed. The studies at Wheaton completed her requirements as for the Board of Foreign Missions.

## Home/Foreign Missions to Host Joint Seminar

The annual Home and Foreign Missions seminar is scheduled for Monday, July 19, at the National Association of Free Will Baptists convening in Kansas City, Mo., July 18-22. The joint session will take place 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Kansas City Convention Center, Room 2210 B-C.

This year's featured speaker is Charlie "Tremendous" Jones. The well-known author and leadership speaker will share thoughts on ways to improve missions outreach and evangelism. The author of *Life is Tremendous*, Mr. Jones has a distinct and unique way of communicating. The session promises to be practical and enjoyable.



**A Free Will Baptist Video Magazine**

**A new resource for . . .**

- Sunday school
- Missions Moment
- Focused prayer time
- Sermon illustrations

Inaugural issue available July 2004 at the National Association of Free Will Baptists in Kansas City, Missouri

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**Each issue will contain four to six video segments.**

**Each segment will run two to five minutes.**

**See preview at [www.fwbgo.com](http://www.fwbgo.com)**

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877-767-7736  
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*Korean Christians join in congregational singing during a session of the Korean National Association of Free Will Baptists.*



*Students and team leaders participate in training prior to their departure for Greece and Central Asia.*

Music will be provided by Legacy of Praise, a Free Will Baptist Southern Gospel group based in Nashville.

## Korean Work Shifted to National Church

As of June 30 the Free Will Baptist work in South Korea has transferred completely to the hands of the national church. Since January 1999, when Drs. John and Esther Chang were appointed as missionaries to South Korea, much has been accomplished.

The Board's original goal was to establish a Free Will Baptist base from which to reach into unreached areas of Asia. A Korean National Association of Free Will Baptists has been formed with several churches participating. A seminary for training Korean workers is in existence. The base has been established.

Dr. Chang became dependent upon the national church for his support in January of this year. The Foreign Missions staff recently learned Dr. and Mrs. Chang have divorced. After prayerful consideration, the Board of FWB Foreign Missions, has determined to discontinue all financial support of the Korean work.

"It is our understanding," General Director James Forlines stated, "the work will continue to be FWB and continue with the original goals. As a Mission we will watch and pray concerning our future involvement in Korea."

## News Capsules

**Spain**—The Villalba FWB Church held its annual retreat June 12-13. According to Kristi Johnson, people who had never attended a church event participated in the retreat.

**India**—National elections in May resulted in a new governing party in India. Since the upset of the BJP party (Hindu nationalists) many states have repealed the anti-conversion laws passed in recent months. These laws required government approval for lower caste Hindus to convert to another religion.

**France**—Tim and Di Keener and big brother Eli welcomed Ethan Walsh into the world on May 3, in Albertville, France. The baby boy weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces. Tim and Di are members of the "M" Team and are in language school in Albertville.

**Antioch, Tenn.**—Upon request of the Spain field council, the Board of Foreign Missions has extended Doug and Patty Chamberlin's term of service. The Chamberlins have completed their two-year term at Evangelical Christian Academy in Madrid, Spain. They were granted an additional year in Spain.

**Japan**—Nathan and Linda Snow reported the birth of Noah Silas in Sapporo, Japan, on June 4. The newborn weighed in at almost 9

pounds and was 20.5 inches long. Mother and son are doing well.

**Spain**—In a recent e-mail Doug and Patty Chamberlin in Madrid, Spain, rejoiced over the salvation of their landlord, Miguel. The Chamberlins, members of the Alcalá de Henares church, and their pastor José Manuel ministered to Miguel and his family following an accident. Doug urged people to pray for Miguel's family who are Catholic.

## 22 Students Minister in Greece, Central Asia

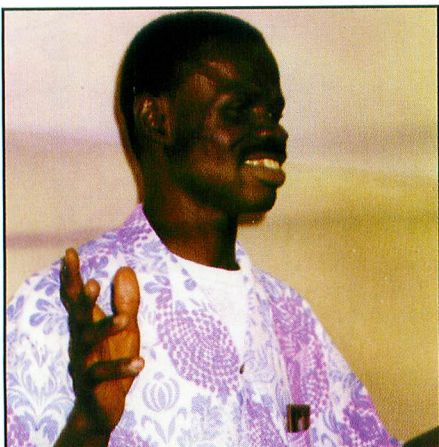
Twenty-two students will minister in Greece and Central Asia this summer through the Foreign Missions department.

A team of eight college students will share the gospel in Athens, Greece, during the Summer Olympics. These team members are expected to depart July 21 and return August 7: Jamie Futrell, Granite City, Ill.; Melissa Gilbert, Dickson, Tenn.; Liz Hale, Milan, Ill.; Derek Lambert, Bentonville, Ark.; Jessica Locklear, Trenton, Mich.; Suzanne McVay, Nashville, Tenn.; Kristi Smith, Ada, Okla.; and Holly Tuck, Norfolk, Va. The team leaders for this group are Michael and Amanda Phillips.

Fourteen other students left on June 23 to minister in two Central Asian countries for three weeks: Victor Albright, Ashland City, Tenn.; Alicia Bunch, Siloam Springs, Ark.; Kristina Cousineau, Moore, Okla.; Rachel Dennis, Vilo-



# NEWS IN REVIEW



**Pastor Silas was ordained to the ministry on June 12 in Côte d'Ivoire.**

nia, Ark.; Michelle Haas, Nashville, Tenn.; Heath Hubbard and Hollie Hubbard, White Hall, Ark.; Jennifer Looper, Russellville, Ark.; Kasey Lundquist, Goldsboro, N.C.; Patrick McDaniel, Vernon, Ala.;

## GIFTS FROM THE HEART

These special gifts were received in April and May 2004:

Donor	In Memory of
Wooddale FWB Church Golden Rule Sunday School Class Knoxville, Tenn.	Ruth Massey
Mrs. Fay Higdon Albany, Ga.	Bill Fulcher
Linda Pinion Union City, Tenn.	Judy Hingst
Huntsville FWB Church Huntsville, Ala.	Jean Tucker
Alabama FWB Church Blackshear, Ga.	Laura Belle Barnard
Glennville WAC Glennville, Ga.	Laura Belle Barnard
Ebenezer FWB Church Glennville, Ga.	Laura Belle Barnard
Corinth FWB Church Alma, Ga.	Laura Belle Barnard
South Georgia Association Waycross, Ga.	Laura Belle Barnard
Mrs. Christine Floyd Andrews, S.C.	Elbert Ray Julian Harrington Flora Pilkington
Donor	In Honor of
Watauga Valley FWB Church Elizabethton, Tenn.	Verlin Anderson

Clip and mail

## Special Gifts

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Given in memory/honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Given by: Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please send memorial/honorarium card to:  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



**Sam and June McVay study with Carmen (right) who was saved on June 25.**

Autumn Morgan, Nashville, Tenn.; Nathan Radley, Greenville, N.C.; Will Taylor, Russellville, Ark.; and Jeanette Wilson, Liberal, Mo.

The students will break into four teams on the ground with Ellen Hingst (Nashville, Tenn.), Craig Portell (Whittington, Ill.), Angela Emerick (Nashville, Tenn.) and Cameron and Krista Lane (Russellville, Ark.) serving as team leaders. They are scheduled to return on July 13.

## Pastor Silas Ordained in Côte d'Ivoire

According to missionaries Jerry and Carol Pinkerton, Pastor Silas (Yao Kouassi N'Guettia) was ordained Saturday, June 12, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. This was the culmination of three years in Bible school training, a year of internship at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Abidjan and completion of requirements of the Ivory Coast Ordination Committee. Free Will Baptists now have 11 ordained pastors in Côte d'Ivoire.

During the ordination service Pastor Silas testified that missionaries came to his village near Bondoukou when he was a boy. The Lord touched his heart through the films they showed and he accepted Christ.

Silas felt God calling him to the

pastorate but resisted. Yet, the weight God placed on him to preach the Good News remained until he yielded. Silas expressed praise for God's grace, provision and watch care over his family.

Many Ivorian Free Will Baptist works had representatives present. Missionaries Jerry and Carol Pinkerton, Alice Smith and Verlin Anderson represented the Mission during the service. Silas' wife Françoise and their three children were also present.

The First Church of Abidjan called Silas as their first African pastor in 1999. Attendance averages 160 on Sunday and 17 people were baptized recently.

## Bible Studies Reap Salvation Decision

After almost four years of Bible studies, a young lady in Spain has made a profession of faith. Missionaries Sam and June McVay reported the "wonderful news" of Carmen's salvation on June 25. June thanked the many in the States who have prayed for Carmen over the years.

"She needs your prayers as much now as before," wrote June. "She is seeing the attacks of Satan . . . but also sees God helping her. Pray she will be bold to tell others of her decision."





Five of these mothers attended church for the first time on Mother's Day in Uberlândia, Brazil.

## Mother's Day Program Attracts Visiting Moms

According to missionaries Tom and Nancy Hughes, five mothers made first-time visits to the Garden Palms FWB Church in Uberlândia, Brazil, to see their children in the Mother's Day program.

Several of the children featured in the program had been faithful participants in the church for two years or more, but their parents had never attended the services.

## Summer Busy with Missionary Travel

Several missionary families have arrived in the United States, or are scheduled to arrive soon, for their stateside assignments.

Don and Ruth McDonald and family (Tokyo, Japan) arrived in Nashville, Tenn., June 21. They will live in Nashville and minister as Missionaries In Residence at Free Will Baptist Bible College. Sam and June McVay (Villalba, Spain) are scheduled to return June 29 and will also be based in Nashville.

Andy and Andrea Moore (Uberlândia, Brazil) arrived in New Bern, N.C., on June 23. Bobby and Geneva Poole (Ribeirão Preto, Brazil) are scheduled for a six-month stateside assignment beginning the first week of July.

Steve and Becky Riggs (Nantes, France) are on a short stateside assignment. Steve arrived in advance of the family on May 12. Becky and the girls came in on

June 8. The family is based in Royal Oak, Mich, but hopes to return to France in August.

Carlisle Hanna (Sonapurhat, India) is expected to arrive in South Carolina on July 4. Soon after his return Hanna will undergo wrist surgery to repair damage sustained in a fall in March.

Lynn Midgett (Madrid, Spain) plans to return to the United States on July 26 for a six-month stateside ministry.

Kimberly Johnson completed her two-year term at Lar Nova Vida (New Life Children's Home) in Araras, Brazil, and returned to the States on June 1.

## South India Bible Institute Purchased

The funds for the purchase of the Volena Wilson Bible Institute property in Conoor, South India, were delivered to the landowner in May by a delegation from South Carolina.

Leaders in South India are rejoicing over the purchase of a permanent facility to train pastors. In the past, many young pastors have been lost to other denominations while they received Bible training in their institutes.

Foreign Missions Board member Sherwood Lee, South Carolina Executive Secretary Mike Jones, Assistant Director Rickey Evans, and Pastor Jake Creech (Horse Branch Free Will Baptist Church) left for India on May 16. The foursome was able to deliver the \$110,000 for the purchase of the institute, fellowship with pastors, participate in baptismal services

and speak at the Tamil Nadu Bible Conference in South India. They also traveled into North India and visited with missionary Carlisle Hanna.

The legal work for the transfer of the land title has not been completed and the property will need repairs and upgrades.

## FINANCIAL BEAT

### Through May 2004

Income for April.....	\$ 580,862.04
Income for May.....	662,064.35
Income through May.....	2,571,191.24
Total expenses through May.....	2,847,083.46
<b>Total 2004 Budget (including VISION projects) ...</b>	<b>\$15,933,090.83</b>

These accounts are in the deficit:

Barker.....	\$ 15.48	Riggs.....	\$ 21,446.56
Callaway.....	7,537.69	Sturgill.....	23,411.67
Chang.....	569.63	Teague.....	15,248.13
Combs.....	15,303.42	Turnbough, J.....	5,710.31
Gibbs.....	5,042.76	Williams.....	1,395.00
Griffin.....	10,533.92	Vandivort.....	3,050.20
Hanna.....	25,393.48	India Bible Inst.....	26,484.83
Kohn.....	1,016.65	+Support Services.....	547,186.65
McVay.....	1,211.39		

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

These accounts are in need of support:

Edgmon.....	\$ 5,545.31	Portell.....	\$ 4,441.22
Owen.....	3,564.27		

## STATES IN ACTION

States/Source	Gifts in May 2004	Gifts thru May 2003	Gifts thru May 2004
Alabama.....	\$ 38,348.17	\$ 180,178.24	\$ 190,027.27
Arizona.....	1,096.53	3,400.56	3,326.49
Arkansas.....	44,954.31	178,943.30	200,142.19
California.....	19,079.10	31,659.79	40,155.37
Canada.....	268.30	1,305.14	1,370.49
Colorado.....	229.51	1,508.94	1,394.15
Florida.....	19,840.83	72,067.61	89,899.62
Georgia.....	43,851.50	99,097.42	130,745.53
Hawaii.....	0.00	0.00	350.00
Idaho.....	1,089.07	1,538.53	2,128.34
Illinois.....	20,281.04	100,030.18	110,570.98
Indiana.....	4,560.04	26,339.54	21,899.41
Iowa.....	50.00	668.22	1,285.00
Kansas.....	74.57	626.39	556.16
Kentucky.....	5,089.56	32,170.65	37,272.85
Louisiana.....	111.20	1,950.00	211.20
Maryland.....	3,370.64	29,328.74	22,009.94
Michigan.....	12,753.52	89,020.49	69,996.51
Mississippi.....	14,063.81	31,648.42	39,684.61
Missouri.....	59,835.66	208,019.72	228,841.33
Montana.....	175.00	1,250.00	925.00
Nebraska.....	0.00	1,500.00	450.00
New Mexico.....	202.44	345.29	1,014.72
North Carolina.....	104,681.94	320,603.18	336,931.56
*Northeast Assn.....	300.00	819.50	550.00
**Northwest Assn.....	423.50	1,931.20	2,395.52
Ohio.....	31,688.97	63,079.47	89,131.42
Oklahoma.....	51,833.23	198,111.62	225,300.51
Pennsylvania.....	1,407.00	1,593.50	2,047.00
South Carolina.....	59,001.14	156,570.50	155,120.38
Tennessee.....	70,888.26	304,024.58	322,484.96
Texas.....	2,401.50	32,179.56	24,434.08
Virgin Islands.....	0.00	1,200.00	3,800.00
Virginia.....	18,286.29	33,059.45	50,602.14
West Virginia.....	8,467.50	46,399.33	55,079.45
WNAC.....	19,207.96	68,800.09	68,810.86
FWB Foundation.....	0.00	15,000.00	16,809.55
Miscellaneous.....	2,511.55	5,765.00	9,872.18
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>\$ 660,423.64</b>	<b>\$ 2,341,734.15</b>	<b>\$ 2,557,716.77</b>

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

\*\*Northwest Association  
Alaska, Oregon and Washington

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





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**Board of Foreign Missions:** Milton Worthington, chairman; Randy Wilson, vice chairman; Danny Williams, secretary; David Shores, Bill Jones, David Williford, Bill Van Winkle, Sherwood Lee, Jerry Norris.

**Administrative Staff:** James Forlines, general director; Doug Little, director of stateside development; Steve Lytle, director of field operations; Robert Conley, director of financial operations; Eddie Payne, director of mobilization and recruitment; Dr. Neil Gilliland, director of member care.

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## Lytle's Lines

*By Steve Lytle, Director of Field Operations*

### Changed Lives

On Monday, June 7, an e-mail from missionary Eddie Bowerman informed me that Luis "Lucho" Dorati had passed away in Panama. Lucho had battled cancer for several years. Although he had lived far from God for most of his life, he frequently attended church with his wife Carmen. We worried about his spiritual condition. But those who knew Lucho and ministered to him over the last few months believe he finally made his peace with God, gaining assurance of his salvation.

As I reflect on Lucho's passing, I'm reminded of the difference the gospel makes—both in individual lives and on a global scale. In the early 1960s Tom and Emma Ruth Willey went to Panama in obedience to God's call. They met the Dorati and Maldonado families.

The Willeys saw Carmen Maldonado, her brother Ricardo and many others in the two families come to Christ. Today Carmen and Lucho's son, Daniel, pastors the Betania Free Will Baptist Church in Panama City and is president of the International

Fellowship of Free Will Baptists. Their daughter Lina is active in the work in Panama. Another daughter plays piano in a church in Mexico.

Ricardo has been a faithful deacon in the First FWB Church in Panama City for over 30 years. He also served as the Panama National Association's first president. Ricardo's children are all Christians. His son Raul is the executive secretary of the Panamanian Association.

The changed lives and Christian heritage of these families are the result of the gospel. Results possible because a couple obeyed, went to Panama, lived out their faith and preached the Word. Each of these lives is a thread in a tapestry woven by God as He works in and through His obedient children.

### Overseas Growth

Free Will Baptists have made, and are making, a difference in the world. In the last decade our overseas work has grown from 7,683 nationals attending Sunday services to almost 27,000 attendees in 2003.

This March 6,000 believers attended the annual conference in India. Three thousand people attended the first half of the conference and then went home to allow another 3,000 people to attend the second part of the event.

In Japan missionaries and Japanese believers are bursting with gratitude and anticipation. They've seen their

small work grow significantly over the past decade. Ten years ago we had two Japanese pastors; today there are seven. New church plants are underway.

Many of the Free Will Baptist churches in Uruguay have outgrown their facilities. Our Cuban and Brazilian works are sending missionaries to other parts of the world. Those within the church in St. Nazaire, France, are working to plant a daughter church in a nearby town with no evangelical witness.

### Making a Difference

Our going, praying and giving **do** make an eternal difference. Disobedience, whether deliberate or simply a failure to act, will break threads in the tapestry God is weaving. What would our Free Will Baptist world scene be today if those to whom the Spirit spoke had refused to go? Would Lucho be in heaven if Tom and Emma Ruth had not gone to Panama?

We must remember God is at work in our world and He is using us. You and I have an indispensable role in the Great Commission. We must not be weary in well doing, for in due season we'll reap, if we faint not. Yes, Lucho Dorati finally came to the Lord. He died a Christian because a few were faithful.

Where is God calling you to go today?

*Steve Lytle*