



HEART BEAT

of Free Will Baptist

International Missions

NOVEMBER
DECEMBER
2004

Showing God at work around the world



Devon the Soulwinner

—page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

A 12-star Gathering, page 6

Planting Churches and Growing Preachers, page 4

My Friend Noboru, page 8

St. Nazaire Hosts Doulos, page 10

Last Regular Issue



Devon the Soulwinner

By Carlisle Hanna

Pastor Devon Marendi has been bringing people to Christ for 50 years and continues to do so. He has won more people to the Lord than any person I have ever known.

Devon was one of three special young men who lived with their families in a small, ordinary village by a river in North India. He had heard a little about Christianity from his older brother who lived outside the village area. Since he was curious, he invited one of his neighbors to go with him to a Catholic mission they knew of some 50 miles away to learn something more. So the two men set off on foot to learn about Jesus. They found the priest and he promised to visit their village. They waited, but the priest did not come.

After a time, Devon and his neighbor walked the 10 miles from their village to the Sonapurhat market. While visiting the market, the pair learned a foreign couple lived in a small compound there. They returned

to the market on a Sunday and met Paul Woolsey, who was serving with our Free Will Baptist mission.

The very next day Brother Woolsey went to the men's village of Junglabita. After a few months of preaching and teaching, each family member in the village accepted Christ as Savior.

Devon loved His Lord and studied hard to learn to read and to know his Bible.

Marie and I first visited Junglabita on Sunday, November 2, 1952. We found the villagers eager to learn, but none of them were literate. We camped in the village for two weeks at a time. Early in the morning we taught the villagers to read and write, and we taught the Bible. Throughout the rest of the day we would walk many miles preaching in other villages. The three young men from Junglabita, led by

Devon, walked with us. Eventually a church was established in Junglabita and Devon became the leader.

When our family returned to Sonapur for our second term we expanded our hostel for boys. Among the new boys were the two sons of Devon—Bolen and Kolen. We soon learned they had memorized many Bible verses. I inquired about this and discovered they had learned them during the time we were teaching in their village. Devon would return home in the evenings and drill the boys in the Scriptures he had learned earlier that day. He would not let them go to sleep until they had memorized the verses.

Devon loved his Lord and studied hard to learn to read and to know his Bible. He continued to farm his own land while going from village to village to witness for Christ. Soon, invitations came from more villages than he could possibly visit.

Pastor Devon has a very effective ministry among the Santal people

group. When visiting their villages he holds non-stop evangelistic services for several days at a time. Bolen tells of a trip he took with his father two or three years ago. They entered a Santal village and immediately began preaching. The services continued for four days. Devon would rest for a few hours and Bolen would be left in charge of the meeting. Villagers would come and listen until responsibilities took them away. Later they would return to learn more. At the end of the four days 72 new believers were baptized. Another 70 or so confessed salvation, but Devon discerned they did not have a full understanding of the decision made. He postponed baptism until more instruction could be given.

For the past two or three years Devon has not been able to see well enough to read. We are all constantly amazed that he knows the Scriptures so well. Although he must ask someone else to read for him while preaching, the reader must be careful to deliver the very verse requested, because Devon knows the verse he needs at that point in his message and knows exactly what it says.

Today, Devon is pastor of our Marsal (Light) FWB Church in Junglabita and is the senior pastor for our entire India work. The other pastors respect him greatly. When a disagreement or misunderstanding occurs Devon has only to say quietly, "That's

Pastor Devon stands with his wife, Mrs. Sumi, who has been a faithful helpmeet.



Carlisle (top, center) stands with the ordained pastors during the 50-year celebration in India. Devon receives a gift (right) from the Indian pastors.

not scriptural" or "You can't do that" to resolve the matter.

At the end of the four days 72 new believers were baptized. Another 70 or so confessed salvation.

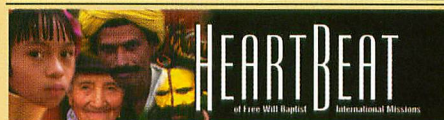
Kolen and Bolen finished high school in our hostel, entered the ministry and became Free Will Baptist pastors. Bolen, the younger, is pastor of our church in Sonapur and is responsible for some 20 other churches. He is also in charge of our hostel with 50 boys. Kolen is pastor of Sathya (Truth) FWB Church. He is responsible for about 15 churches and serves as president of our FWB Conference.

On July 3 of this year, the day I left Sonapur, Kolen brought his father to



tell me goodbye. Devon was so weak that Kolen almost lifted him step by step. Devon's request to me was, "Please pray that He will enable me to do the work He has for me." Physically, Devon is very weak and frail; but spiritually he stands as a strong example for those in India and America.

Carlisle Hanna is the only missionary serving with FWB International Missions still in India. He and his wife, Marie (deceased), went to India in 1951.



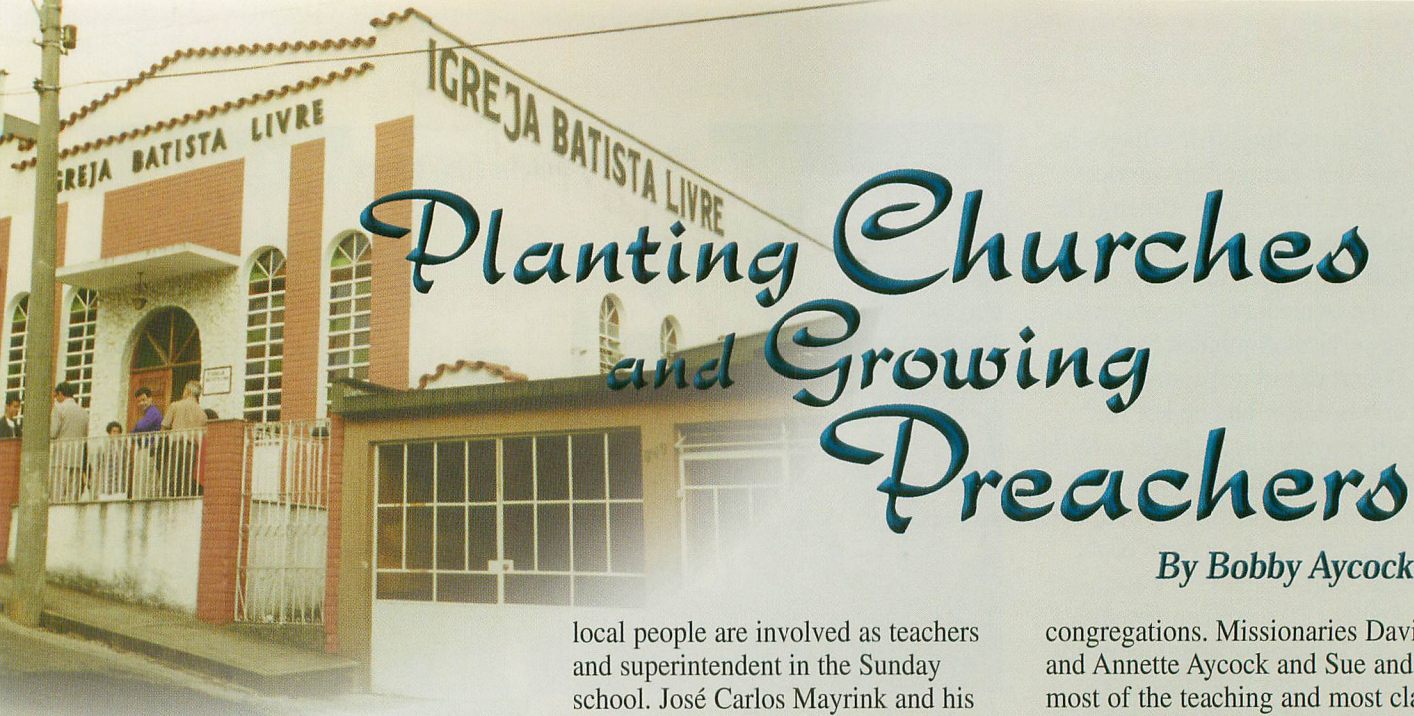
Vol. 44, No. 6

November-December 2004

Deborah St. Lawrence, *Editor*

HeartBeat (USPS 239-020) is published bimonthly by the Board of International Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, 5233 Mt. View Road, Antioch, Tenn. 37013-2306. Periodical postage paid at Antioch, Tenn. and additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **HeartBeat**, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, Tenn. 37011-5002.

Don Robirds, *Layout and Design*



Planting Churches and Growing Preachers

By Bobby Aycock

Lured by the great need in the **Barbacena** church and the challenge to fulfill our vision, we returned to Brazil in February of 1991. We had started the work in the city some years earlier. Our vision was to establish a strong church in Barbacena and reach out to surrounding cities.

A daily radio program contributed significantly to the church-planting process. House to house visitation, tract distribution, evangelistic home Bible studies and contacts with family and friends of new converts also were effective methods of evangelism.

The attendance neared 100 by 1982 when we left the field to teach missions at Free Will Baptist Bible College. For four years prior to our return to Barbacena, the congregation suffered the lack of a pastor or a resident missionary. The attendance plummeted to about 25. We returned with high expectations—church growth and the fulfillment of our previous outreach vision.

In 1994 we targeted **Antonio Carlos**, a city of 10,000 people just 10 miles away. Despite being a very difficult place to work we were able to gather a congregation and dedicated a new church building in November 1998. It is yet a mission church but

local people are involved as teachers and superintendent in the Sunday school. José Carlos Mayrink and his wife, Elza, help there and we anticipate having someone to lead the work in the near future.

Our vision was to establish a strong church in Barbacena and reach out to surrounding cities.

The church in Barbacena grew to its former strength and God began to answer our prayers for laborers. Flávio Grossi, a 16-year-old young man, came to our church. Though he had previous contact with the gospel, he was confused and without certainty of his salvation. Personal counseling and orientation helped him gain that certainty along with great excitement about our church and the Lord's work.

Flávio later announced a call to preach and asked to be trained. No Bible college was nearby, so we began Bible classes. For three consecutive years, retired missionary Ken Eagleton came from the States to teach classes for about two months and begin our Bible institute and college. Due to the limited number of congregations, enrollment has always been small. At the beginning of 2004 we had 25 students from five different

congregations. Missionaries David and Annette Aycock and Sue and I do most of the teaching and most classes are held at night.

After being ordained and working as my assistant, Flávio assumed the pastorate of the Barbacena church in January of 2001. He and his fiancée, Sheila, plan to be married in January 2005. He is a dedicated soulwinner and a very good preacher. Alongside the ministry in Barbacena they maintain a preaching point in **Campolide**, a settlement about 10 miles from the city.

Other young men announced the call to preach during these years and became a part of the Bible college student body. Among these were Mário Lúcio Neves and Ricardo Trindade Costa from the Barbacena church and Daniel Gouvea from Lafaiete.

Lafaiete had one Free Will Baptist church but the need and opportunity for a second church arose. I became the overseer of this mission work and preached twice monthly. Daniel Gouvea and his wife, Fabiana, study in the Barbacena Bible college Tuesday through Friday and work in Lafaiete on weekends. Daniel expects to graduate in June of 2005 and be involved full time in the work.

Wilson de Matos, a lay preacher in the Lafaiete congregation, leads the Wednesday night Bible study and prayer service. He and his wife, Kelly,

have taken several Bible college classes. Very soon, a new church building should be finished.

The work in **Carandai**, a city of 30,000 people about 20 miles north of Barbacena, was started in 2001. A new church building was dedicated in September of that year. Sue and I worked there with the help of Mário Lúcio, who was then a Bible college student. David Aycock assumed leadership of that work in February of 2002. Mário continued to help until he returned to Barbacena as assistant to Flávio.

Ricardo Costa started working with David in Carandai in March of the following year. He and his wife, Edneia, have moved to the city. He has taught a number of students in evangelistic home Bible studies. Ricardo hopes to graduate from the Bible college in June of next year.

Various sources estimate Brazil is 70 to 80 percent Roman Catholic with strong spiritist activity.

Sue and I, with the cooperation of the First church, started a new mission church in 2002 in **Nova Cidade**, a residential area of Barbacena. Construction of the church building was completed and dedicated in December of that year. In February 2004, David and Annette assumed leadership of the work. José Antonio Coimbra and his wife, Flávia, attend the congregation. Both are graduates of a local teacher's college and are studying in the Bible college. José Antonio has a desire to work both in and outside the church in visitation and evangelism. He also feels the Lord has called him to preach.

Although most of the preachers are young and have limited experience in the role of leadership, they are excited about learning and ministering. We

have high expectations for them, but they need prayer for spiritual growth and fruitfulness.

Planting and growing churches is not easy. Various sources estimate Brazil is 70 to 80 percent Roman Catholic with strong spiritist activity. Many who fly the Catholic flag are spiritist also. Much prayer and hard work are essential to success.

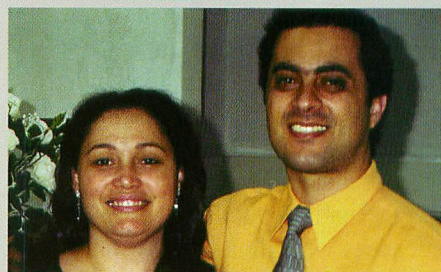
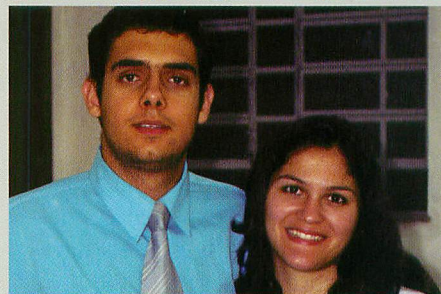
We formulated an evangelistic home Bible study based on the gospel of John. Now the converts themselves lead this study proficiently. It has become the most utilized method of evangelism in our area. Our experience has proven that people with problems are more receptive to gospel witness.

Jesus said, *"I will build my church...."* For everything accomplished here we praise Him. All the glory and honor belongs to Him.

But we are not finished! *"The fields are white unto harvest."* Other cities in our area are on our hearts but we lack laborers. We trust the Lord will continue to call Brazilians, but we also need missionaries to train Brazilian leaders and help start more churches. The task has only begun. The challenge is great!

Bobby Aycock and his wife, Sue, have served in Brazil since 1960 except for six years when Bobby taught missions at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Below is the Antonio Carlos church, the first outreach of the Barbacena church. Shown from top to bottom are preachers Flavio Grossi and Bobby Aycock, Daniel Gouvea and wife Fabiana, Ricardo Costa and wife Edneia, and Wilson de Matos and wife Kelly.



A 12-star Gathering*

By Steve Lytle, director of field operations

¡Bienvenidos, Hermanos!

Panama Hosts the International Fellowship of Free Will Baptists

T just returned from Panama and a life-changing experience," declared Steve Riggs a few days after the fourth gathering of the International Fellowship of Free Will Baptist Churches. "Among other things," the missionary to France continued, "the meeting reminded me of what we are about—building Christ's church of people from all nations, tongues and tribes."

Twelve countries were represented during the October 4-8 meeting in Panama City. Brazil, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, France, Japan, Mexico, Panama, Spain, the United States and Uruguay sent delegates and/or observers. Russia sent a visitor, Pastor Nikolay Maslyakov.

On Sunday, October 3, IFFWBC attendees were divided into small groups and assigned to visit one of the nine Panamanian FWB churches. God used brothers from Canada, Spain,

France, Mexico, and many other countries to challenge Panamanian Christians.

Messages, reports, music, prayer and fellowship times encouraged delegates during the week. Spanish pastor José Manuel Parrón summarized the event: "We enjoyed learning how the Lord is working in the hearts of so many people in many different parts of the world."

****Twelve countries were represented during the October 4-8 meeting in Panama City.***

"Effective Leadership," this year's theme, was supported with four major papers: Definition of Leadership (Melvin Worthington, USA), Demonstration of Leadership (Gerardo Acevedo, Uruguay), Dangers of Leadership (José Manuel Parrón,

Spain) and Duties of Leadership (Thomas Marberry, Mexico).

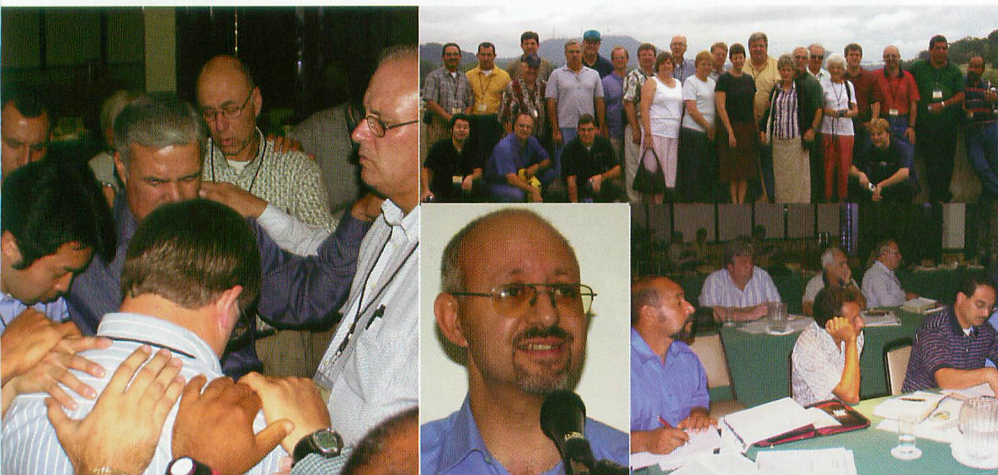
Evening services inspired and exhorted those attending. Rolando Delgado, Cuban pastor of the First FWB Church in Panama City, preached a challenging message on Tuesday night. Wednesday's wonderful celebratory service featured participation of all the Panama FWB churches with Panamanian costumes and music. Stan Bunch (missionary to Panama) delivered a stirring missions message from Psalm 67. People filled the altar in response to the call to live their lives for God's glory and to advance His Kingdom.

As FWB leaders from around the world came together, it was evident that God's Spirit was at work among us. As iron sharpened iron, individuals were exhorted to return to their home countries with a renewed sense of vision and commitment to continue and expand the work of the Lord.

Attendees covenanted to pray for one another, to share what God is doing in their respective fields, and to constantly look for more ways to work together. Most attendees departed Saturday morning among hugs, tears and promises to stay in touch.

We look forward, if the Lord tarries His coming, to hearing Spanish and French co-hosts say "Benvenue" and "Bienvenido" to the 2007 International Fellowship of Free Will Baptist Churches.

Clockwise from the left, International Fellowship participants pray together, the group gathers near the Panama Canal, participants listen to a presentation, and José Manuel Parrón of Spain addresses the group.



Thanks, WNAC+

—By Doug Little,
director of stateside development

Finding words to adequately thank WNAC (Women Nationally Active for Christ) for their contribution to International Missions reminds me of the difficulty in selecting an annual Mother's Day card that puts my feelings for my mother into words. But I will do my best.

Thanks, WNAC, for praying!

For years WNAC has mobilized prayer for missions through the **Pre-Easter Week of Prayer** emphasis. Through the leadership structure of the local chapters, WNAC has prioritized missions praying among Free Will Baptist women. Our sisters' faithful prayers impact not only our missionaries and those to whom they are sent, but also their own families and churches. Eternity will reveal the profound difference made in the harvest through the prayers WNAC women have offered and promoted.

Thanks, WNAC, for giving!

The WNAC office receipted close to \$165,000 for International Missions needs in 2003. An additional \$31,000 came directly to the Missions office—from local Women Active for Christ groups. The **Laura Belle Barnard World Missions Offering** is consistently the largest single contribution to the World Missions Offering project to help promote overseas church planting each year.

WNAC was a major partner in the remodeling project of the **Missionary In Residence** house at Free Will Baptist Bible College—to the tune of approximately \$30,000. At the 2004 WNAC convention delegates adopted **Project 50/50**. Through this project they plan to underwrite the cost for 500-700 Central Asian women to participate in the April 2005 "Sisters' Prayer Revival for the Nations of Central Asia" in Kazakhstan.

Doug Little (top photo) personally thanks Marjorie Workman and her staff for their part in world outreach. Missionary Lynn Midgett (bottom) visits the Provision Closet.



The **Cleo Purcell Foreign Student Scholarship Fund** of WNAC annually contributes to the education of overseas pastoral students. Most recently, future pastors in Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, and India have received assistance through this program. Many local, district, and state WAC groups faithfully and sacrificially support missionaries and missionary projects through their own offerings. They often challenge their churches and associations toward greater missions giving by their example and influence. WNAC's passion for missions demonstrates the scriptural truth of "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Thanks, WNAC, for caring!

Few things are more enjoyable than watching the faces of the missionary children as they talk about the **Provision Closet**. Free Will Baptist women are generous! During 2003 alone, nearly \$24,000 worth of donated household goods was sent from WAC groups to the Provision Closet. In addition, nearly \$7,000 in cash gifts were receipted. Home and international missionaries alike enjoy and appreciate the savings to their accounts and the convenience of stocking up on needed supplies.

Ladies, thanks for using your blessings to bless the nations! The FWB International Missions family loves and appreciates you!

I was truly blessed to see my first Japanese convert and his wife still active in church and living for the Lord!

Boarding a plane early on the morning of September 13 of this year triggered memories of April 9, 1956. As my wife and I joyfully set out for the 50th anniversary celebration of Free Will Baptist ministry in Japan, I recalled our family boarding the USS President Wilson for 14 days at sea and the beginning of my missionary adventure.

Wesley and Aileen Calvery, our only Free Will Baptist missionaries in Japan at that time, greeted us when we docked. They had arrived a scant 15 months earlier.

Following two years of Japanese language study, our family moved to the town of Bihoro in eastern Hokkaido. That was April of 1958 and I prayed the Lord would give me a male Christian friend.

In August of that year we held a tent meeting for five nights in the small town of Tsubetsu. On the second evening Noboru Hanzawa attended the meeting. He continued to come the rest of the week.

Noboru was saved in December of 1959 and was our first convert.

I rented a meeting room in Tsubetsu and held services twice a week. Noboru attended faithfully. He was saved in December of 1959 and was our first convert. The following summer he was baptized in a lake during a summer camp for our four fledgling works—Abashiri, Bihoro, Koshimizu and Tsubetsu.

Noboru and I became very close

friends. The Lord had answered my prayer with a Christian friend near my own age. He liked American food and visited quite often in our Bihoro home, frequently arriving by motorcycle.

One day I noticed something was bothering my friend. He related that his mother, who lived on the main island, wanted to arrange a wedding for him. As we talked and prayed he realized he should marry a Christian. Since arranged marriages are a normal Japanese custom, he asked me to find him a wife.

Noboru's job took him to many farms. One particular farmer's daughter caught his attention and he brought her to the Tsubetsu services. Kiyoko accepted the Lord as her Savior and I had the privilege of baptizing her in the Abashiri church.

Several months later I performed their wedding in the Tsubetsu church. Kiyoko wore a traditional Japanese wedding dress and hairdo for the ceremony. My son Samuel was seated on the front row near his mother who was playing the pump organ. Samuel began crying when Kiyoko entered because he didn't recognize her with

My Friend Noboru

By Fred Hersey

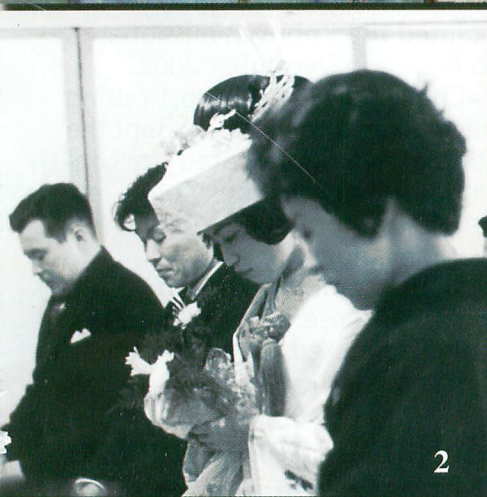


1—Left to right are Noboru, Fred Hersey, Evelyne Hanzawa wedding in 1960; 3—Noboru and Kiyoko with Fred Hersey in Bihoro in September of 2004.

the extremely white makeup. He thought she was a ghost!

As friends usually do, Noboru and I share strange and funny stories.

As friends usually do, Noboru and I share strange and funny stories of things we've done together. Not long after he and Kiyoko married, Noboru and I decided to walk from their home



lyn, Philip, Samuel and Kalayashi (a helper) at the Bihoro church in 1960; 2—the Han- during the 50th anniversary celebration on the island of Hokkaido; and 4—Noboru and

to Lake Akan, a well-known tourist attraction. A few miles down the road a big truck stopped and the driver offered us a ride because only “crazy people” walked on those roads. Although we thought he’d probably sized us up accurately, we accepted the ride and greatly enjoyed it.

On another occasion we decided to visit Lake Akan in the middle of winter. The lake was frozen and snow piled high around us. We determined to make this trip on motorcycle. I

imagine we were quite a sight. Little Noboru driving with football-player-sized Fred holding on for dear life!

Noboru and Kiyoko were not always as faithful to attend church services as they should have been. He developed a constant ringing in his ear during that time. He told me later the ringing was the Lord’s way of reminding him to stay true to Him and always attend church faithfully.

Through the years we have stayed in contact with one another. We’ve

shared triumphs and trials. I’ve prayed for Noboru and Kiyoko when she was ill and near death. We have enjoyed good fellowship.

Imagine the joy I felt at seeing Noboru again when I visited the Bihoro church prior to the special 50th meeting. The encounter and fellowship with this brother and sister in Christ was the highlight of my trip.

Noboru and Kiyoko were the earliest Free Will Baptist converts present at the 50th anniversary celebration. Noboru was asked to introduce me to the group at the meeting. He related some of our experiences together, and was a little emotional as he finished. I must admit I was a little teary-eyed myself—tears of joy and thanksgiving.

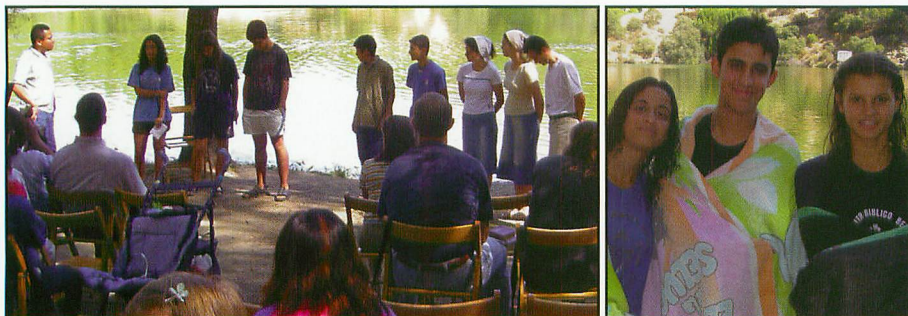
Noboru and Kiyoko were the earliest Free Will Baptist converts present at the 50th anniversary celebration.

Attending those three days of special celebration services was a tremendous blessing. Over 100 people had registered for the special event. I was delighted to see many people I had known through the years.

I rejoice in knowing Free Will Baptists have six organized churches, five Japanese ordained pastors and two meeting places. Missionaries and nationals are endeavoring to get the gospel out to the lost through diverse evangelistic endeavors.

What a difference from my first arrival in Japan! The Lord is building His church in Japan and I’m thankful for the growth and progress our Mission has made. I was truly blessed to see my first Japanese convert and his wife still active in church and living for the Lord!

Fred Hersey served as a missionary to Japan from 1956 to 1997. He has returned to Japan twice since retirement as an E-TEAM sponsor. Fred currently pastors First FWB Church in Blakely, Ga.



Jhon Fredy (top, left) speaks to baptismal candidates from Villalba, Spain, and those attending the service; three appear happy (top, right) after being baptized; and Jhon Fredy and Jeff Turnbough (bottom, left) prepare to baptize one of eight candidates.

Eight People from Villalba Baptized

Eight people from the Villalba Free Will Baptist Church in Spain were baptized on September 19. Converts were from Romania, Colombia, Ecuador and Spain.

Jhon Fredy of Colombia shared a clear presentation of the gospel with the 90 people attending. He also baptized the new believers with the assistance of missionary Jeff Turnbough.

Those baptized were Lucian, Crina, Magdalena, Gustavo, Daniel, Kevin, Elisabet, and Amaya.

International Missions Staff Member Injured

Geneva Walker, accounting clerk at International Missions, was injured in an automobile accident on October 13 on the way to the office. She suffered a broken collarbone and severe bruising. Doctors suspected some internal bleeding on or around the kidney, however further tests showed a tumor on the kidney.

While en route to the hospital

following the accident Geneva asked her husband, Reverend Billy Walker, "What is the Lord trying to tell me?" When the tumor was discovered, she was sure that was God's message.

The malignant tumor and kidney were removed laparoscopically on October 18 and doctors felt the malignancy was contained. Mrs. Walker was recovering well at press time.

Corley Requests Prayer Due to Terrorist Attacks

"In the wake of recent terrorist activity here in Russia, I want to ask each of you to please pray for this area of the world," writes missionary Mike Corley in a September e-mail.

Mike urged people to pray for God to bring healing and hope to surviving victims and families and salvation to the terrorists. He also asked people to pray for God to intervene in any future attempted acts of terrorism and for safety for those traveling within Russia as well as for safety and courage for them in Krasnodar.



K.C. and Liz Kohn have resigned from missionary service.

Kohns Resign from Appointment to France

K.C. and Liz Kohn submitted their resignation from service with the Mission effective October 16, 2004. The Board of Foreign Missions originally appointed the Kohns as missionaries to France in December 2002.

Challenges of support-raising have taken a toll to the extent the couple felt ill prepared to continue. However, the Kohns expressed a continued burden for world evangelism.

"Our commitment to God's global purpose is not diminished, just redirected at this time," writes K.C.

St. Nazaire Hosts Doulos O.M. Ship, Book Ministry

The St. Nazaire Free Will Baptist Church in France hosted the Operation Mobilization ship, Doulos, which docked in St. Nazaire on September 3. Reports indicated the ship had over 13,000 visitors on board during its 20 days in port. Many were touched by the testimonies and lives of the 300 people from 40 different nationalities living on the ship.

Some of the people from town heard a message of hope through songs and mimes of the crew. Others visited the ship's bookstore where they bought 138 Bibles, 1,695 educational books and 2,308 Christian books.

Several conferences were held



A tugboat tows the Operation Mobilization ship, *Doulos*, into port in St. Nazaire, France, with Christian workers standing on deck.

on board the ship including a special women's conference and a regional pastor's conference. On September 18, the last weekend the ship was in port, 650 people attended a special international night in a public auditorium.

Twelve members of the St. Nazaire church, along with members from the Nantes and St. Sebastien churches, joined the ship's crew during the two weeks the *Doulos* was in port. Missionaries Jerry Gibbs, Steve Riggs and Dennis Teague, along with St. Nazaire church member Michel Baconnais, served as advisory team leaders for the ship's line-up team.

Missionaries Robert and Judy Bryan, who arrived in France just after the *Doulos* docked, served as translators and were on board almost every day until the ship departed. "Many heard the gospel through programs on board or personal conversation with crew members," says Robert.

Steve Riggs of Nantes indicated Cécile, a young girl from the Nantes church, will be serving aboard the *Doulos* for two years. The ship ministers in ports all around the world.

HeartBeat Ceases as Periodical Publication

This issue of *HeartBeat* will conclude publication of the bi-monthly magazine. Delegates at the National Association of Free Will Baptists voted in July to discontinue departmental publications in favor of one joint publication. The new magazine is slated for production in April 2005.

Forty-three years of Free Will Baptist International Missions history has been recorded in the pages of *HeartBeat*. A 24-page commemorative issue of *HeartBeat* is currently in process. All those on the current *HeartBeat* mailing list can expect to receive the special issue in February.

The International Missions staff has committed to keep readers informed through the new publication, missionary newsletters, *IMPulse* video magazine, the Web site (www.fwbgo.com), and various other means. The Mission and editorial staff wish to express thanks to constituents for their support over the last 43 years.

Cuban Churches Have Hurricane Damage

According to Pastor Reniel of Havana, Cuba, September's Hurricane Ivan wrought some damage in the western part of Pinar del Rio, but it was less than they had feared. "Our great God had mercy on his people in Cuba," says Reniel.

Among areas hit was the church in Martinas. Although it was still standing, the church has been declared uninhabitable. Some roofs were carried off in the area of the La Fe church and other damage was evident.


Christians have been urged to pray for the emotional stability of Cuban Free Will Baptists as well as for opportunities for the churches to be powerful witnesses of God's grace.

Since the churches and people are uninsured, financial assistance is needed. Anyone wishing to help may send donations to FWB International Missions earmarked "Cuban Hurricane Relief Fund," P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011.

Don't miss out! Subscribe today!



A Free Will Baptist Video Magazine




VHS—\$75.00

DVD—\$90.00

one-year subscription

one-year subscription

(4 issues)

IMPulse 1.3 coming in January 2005

Featuring segments from Russia, Panama, Tajikistan and Uruguay

NEWS IN REVIEW

Keeners Request Change of Ministry Assignment

Tim and Di Keener, members of the M Team to France, recently requested reassignment. The Keeners initially planned to minister with a team focused on reaching North African immigrants. To this end they began language school with the team in January 2004 in Albertville, France.

While living and ministering in France, the Keeners developed a burden for the French people. The couple requested a change of assignment to work with missionaries in the Brittany area of France. They received approval for the assignment change from the Board of International Missions on October 1.



Tim and Di Keener have changed to ministry in the Brittany area of France.

Tim and Di traveled stateside October 13 to personally share with supporters the shift in ministry. They were to return to France on November 15 to resume language study.



Steve Lytle (left) translates for Steve Riggs at the International Fellowship meeting in Panama.

Panama Hosts the International Fellowship

The triennial meeting of the general assembly of the International Fellowship of Free Will Baptist Churches, Inc. was held October 4-8 in Panama City, Panama. The event was hosted by the Panamanian Association of Free Will Baptists with assistance from the missionaries assigned to Panama.

Thirty delegates represented 11 countries: Brazil, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, France, Japan, Mexico, Panama, Spain, United States and Uruguay. Russia sent a visitor.

The following officers were elected to a three-year term: president, José Manuel Parron (Spain); vice-president, Gerardo Acevedo (Uruguay); and secretary-treasurer, Steve Lytle (USA).

Café y Algo Mas Held in Alpedrete in October

In another evangelistic outreach effort, missionaries held a Café y Algo Mas (Coffee and Something More) program at the Hotel Sierra Real in Alpedrete, Spain, on October 30 with approximately 50 people attending. Eighteen people who do not know Christ as Savior listened to the presentation.

Prior to the main speaker, Yolanda Almeida of the Villalba church shared the importance of physical exercise, and a short

Two great books about missions in India!

Over Mountain or Plain Sea

\$12.95

plus \$2.00 S&H

An intriguing story of a girl's early experiences, her life in a Tennessee orphanage and on to the ends of the earth!

TOUCHING the UNTOUCHABLES

\$4.00

plus \$2.00 S&H

Laura Belle Barnard pioneered the Free Will Baptist work in south India, touching the lives of thousands of outcasts.

Get both books for the special price of \$13.95!

plus \$3.00 Shipping and Handling

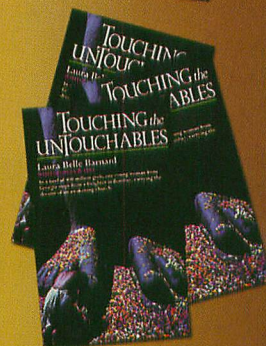
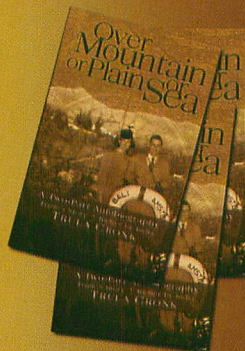
Order from

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

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

www.fwbgo.com or heartbeat@fwbgo.com

or call 877-767-7736





Pastor José Manuel Parron emcees the session of *Café y Algo Mas* (left) and Anthony Edgmon pours coffee (right) for Maria Ester Sanchez, the guest speaker.



piano concert was given by Manuel Fernandez and his wife Ula. Manuel is Kristi Johnson's piano teacher and the choir director in Alpedrete.

The main speaker for the event, Maria Ester Sanchez, shared her testimony of the peace that Christ's presence gave her and her family when they were nearly killed by carbon monoxide poisoning in their home. She emphasized the importance of truly knowing Christ instead of just relying on what we have always been told about Him.

According to Lea Edgmon, one couple who attended for the first time asked to meet with them to learn more. Several others who had attended last year also were present and commented favorably about the program.

News Capsules

Côte d'Ivoire—Amiezi Paul is scheduled to be inaugurated in January of 2005 as the director of the FWB Bible Institute in Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire. He is to finish his master's degree in theology in June of 2005.

Nashville, Tenn.—Mrs. Katherine McDonald, mother of Japan missionary Donnie McDonald, went to be with the Lord on November 2. "Mrs. Mac," as many

alumni of Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., affectionately knew her, had been recently diagnosed with a recurrence of cancer. Funeral services were held at Bethlehem FWB Church in Ashland City, Tenn., on November 5.

Côte d'Ivoire—Alice Smith attended a five-day seminar in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, during September on "How to Evangelize Muslims."

Japan—Bethany Crowson indicated recently that one of her adult English class students confided she had "a dirty heart and much agony in her life." Bethany had the opportunity to explain the difference Christ makes.

Panama—Missionary Stan Bunch has requested prayer for Miguel Vernal, a man who was too "busy and had things under control" when he was confronted with Jesus several years ago. Now, Stan says he is "no longer young, not as busy and definitely is not in control. Pray for him to concentrate his thinking on Christ and a commitment to Him."

Charleston, S.C.—Missionary Carlisle Hanna, who underwent surgery on his wrist in July, had to have further surgery on October 15 to repair the bone and the metal plate placed in the wrist.

The plate had broken into pieces and left Carlisle in severe pain.

Japan—Missionary Linda Snow had her gall bladder removed Wednesday, September 29, at a hospital in Japan. The procedure went smoothly.

Panama—Brenda Bunch is working with the Good News Bible Club in Chitre, Panama. The club is averaging 15 in attendance. She urged people to pray for the work in Chitre as they begin Sunday school and Sunday morning worship services.

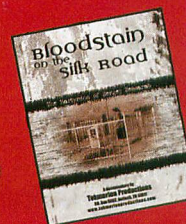
Japan—According to Judy Bailey two believers were baptized on Sunday, October 31, in Tokyo, Japan. Mr. Sato accepted Christ earlier this year. Mrs. Maiko Kishi is a believer from the Philippines. Ken and Judy Bailey held Bible studies and baptism classes in the Kishi home over several weeks prior to the service.

Brazil—Kenneth Eagleton led a young man, Euler, to the Lord on October 10. Euler had been dating a girl who attended the Belo Horizonte church and had attended church services with her. This particular Sunday he came alone and asked Kenneth at the church door, "What is this thing about accepting Christ I keep

Order Now!

**DVD \$20.00
VHS \$15.00**

This compelling story of
Sergej Bessarab,
a modern-day martyr,
was filmed on site in
Isfara, Tajikistan,
where he and his wife
sought to plant a church.



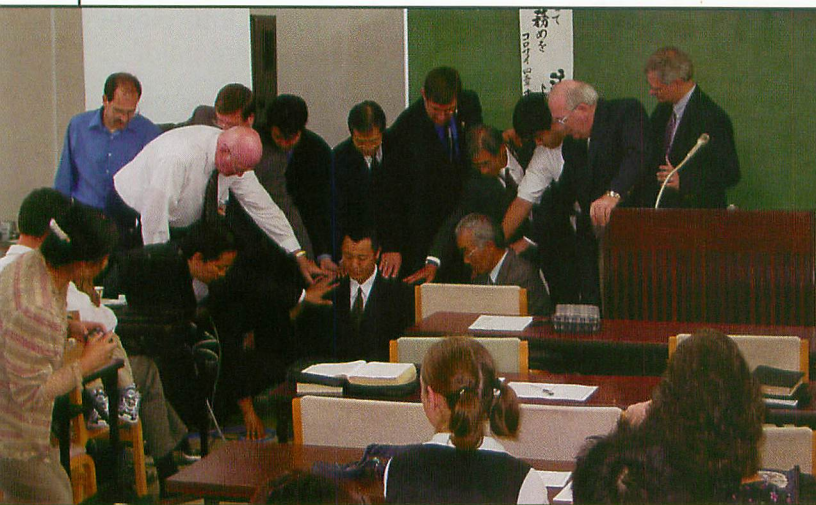
A 40-minute film
documenting
Sergej's murder

Order from

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002
www.fwbgo.com or heartbeat@fwbgo.com
or call 877-767-7736

NEWS IN REVIEW



Keith Burden (left photo, back, center) and others at the 50th anniversary celebration in Japan lay hands on Pastor Kimura, the newly elected moderator of the Japanese national association. Jerry Pinkerton dedicates a baby (right) in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

hearing about?" Dr. Eagleton explained the plan of salvation and Euler joined the family of God.

Spartanburg, S.C.—Andy and Andrea Moore, missionaries to Brazil, rejoice at the arrival of Lily Campbell, born October 10 in Spartanburg, S.C. The newborn weighed 7 pounds and 3 ounces. The Moores are on stateside assignment.

GIFTS FROM THE HEART

These special gifts were received in August and September 2004:

Donor	In Memory of
Rusty and Brenda Carney West Frankfort, Ill.	Mary Wadley
Port Royal United Methodist Church Adams, Tenn.	Grace Ford
Wendy Gail Southwell Atoka, Tenn.	Victoria, Elisabeth, and Olivia Edgmon
Irvin and Lucy Hyman Albany, Ga.	Bill Fulcher
Donor	In Honor of
Wendy Gail Southwell Atoka, Tenn.	Emily and Marc Edgmon

Clip and mail

Special Gifts

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

Brazil—Rui, the new pastor of the Garden Palms FWB Church in Uberlândia, Brazil, baptized eight people in September. Three sisters (Dayanna, Polyanna, and Adriana), a newlywed couple (Valdiney and Arianne), a couple of teenage boys (Leandro and Edwardo) and Aparecida, a mother of four, followed the Lord in baptism.

Spain—Jeff Turnbough recently signed the final copies of blueprints for a new church building in Villalba, Spain. The plans are with the College of Architects in Madrid where they must be examined, approved and stamped with an official seal. Once they have approval the plans will be submitted to the city officials for a building permit.

Japan FWB Celebrate 50 Years of Ministry

Over 100 people gathered September 18-20 at a retreat center in Hidaka, Hokkaido, Japan, to celebrate 50 years of Free Will Baptist missions in the Land of the Rising Sun. Japanese Christians planned the event and invited FWB Executive Secretary Keith Burden to be the guest speaker.

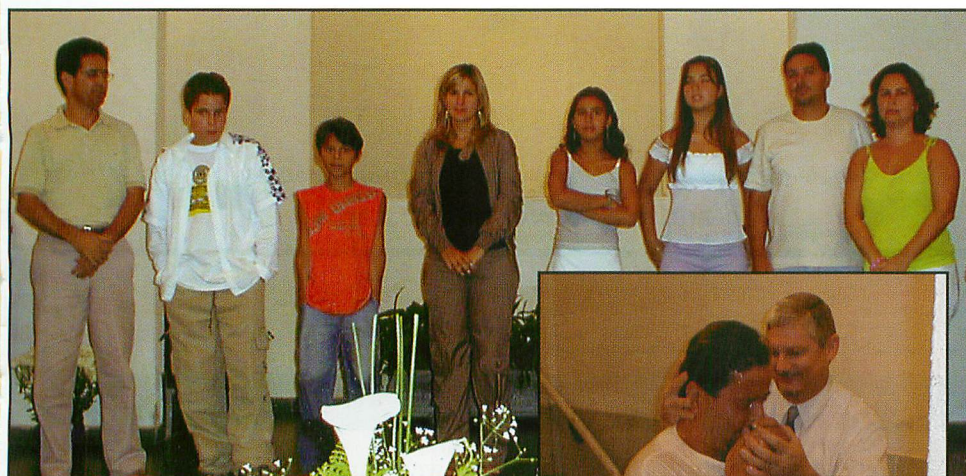
Pastor Kimura of Kita Hiroshima Chapel was elected as the new moderator of the Japanese national association during the weekend. According to Kimura the celebration offered an opportunity to "collectively reflect on the past and look to the future...reviewing the past we hope to find the weaknesses that might have hindered the work as well as give thanks for the strengths and progress made...and together set our course for the future."

Former Japan missionaries Fred and June Hersey, 14 current career and short-term missionaries and five other people from the United States attended the celebration.

Pinkerton Dedicates Baby of Son He Dedicated

In September Jerry Pinkerton officiated at the dedication of baby Marilyne Esperance (Hope), the first child of Dr. Gabriel Dongui and his wife, Anne-Marie.

Jerry recalled dedicating a baby during his first week in Africa in 1974 in the bush village of Nassian. Carol Pinkerton indicated a Christian came to their house and said, "Pastor, please come. My wife has just given birth to our



Eight baptismal candidates give testimonies (above) prior to their baptism and Dr. Kenneth Eagleton (right) prepares to baptize one of the adults.

first son. We want you to pray that we will raise him to honor God and he will always serve Him."

Jerry went to the mud brick hut and prayed for the "bundle" that was handed to him. Dr. Gabriel Dongui was that "bundle."

English Student in Japan Accepts Christ

Short-term missionaries to Hokkaido, Japan, Joni Thomas and Bethany Crowson rejoiced over the salvation of 25-year-old Mika Sasaki, one of their English students, in September.

Mika began English conversation classes with Alicia Hart who served a two-year term in Hokkaido. She has also participated in a weekly Bible study with Alicia, Joni and Bethany and attended church services at Miha-rashidai Chapel.

Mika has stated several times that she understands much about the Bible and Christianity but the "light" hadn't come on. During the Bible lesson on September 14, Mika announced she had made the decision to trust God and receive Jesus as Savior. Reading *The Purpose Driven Life* by Rick War-

ren helped things to become completely clear. Mika then spoke with some Japanese believers who encouraged her in her step of faith.

Joni encouraged readers to "continue to pray for Mika and her new life in Christ and pray that her boyfriend and family will come to know the Savior as well."

Eagleton Baptizes Eight in Belo Horizonte Church

Dr. Kenneth Eagleton reported baptizing eight people on Sunday, October 17, in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. Each of the converts gave a testimony to about 45 people in the congregation. Many of those present were unsaved family members visiting the church for the first time.

Four adults and four adolescents were among those immersed: Sergio and Cláudia Ferraz de Almeida (a husband and wife saved in June) and their daughters Izabella (12-year old saved in July) and Lorena (16-year-old saved in August); Pedro, an 11-year-old boy who accepted Christ in October; Fernando, a 12-year-old boy saved in June; Adlaberto, a 45-year-old man who met Christ

in April; and Elaine, a 31-year-old woman who was saved before coming to the Belo church.

"The Lord blessed us with a tremendous service," exclaimed Dr. Eagleton.

Visit our new Web site
www.fwbgo.com
for news updates, to place
orders, to donate on-line.

FINANCIAL BEAT

Through September 2004

Income for August.....	\$ 555,033.62
Income for September.....	414,274.91
Income through September.....	4,566,105.99
Total expenses through September.....	5,070,878.90
Total 2004 Budget (including VISION projects)	\$15,933,090.83

These accounts are in the deficit:

Barker.....	\$ 2,057.27	Sturgill.....	\$ 4,171.14
Callaway.....	5,232.04	Teague.....	16,377.53
Chang.....	569.63	Vandivort.....	2,958.60
Hanna.....	60,839.19	India Bible Inst.....	23,236.56
Kohn.....	7,522.04	Support Services.....	469,234.30

These accounts are in need of support:

Edgmon.....	\$ 4,249.13	Snow, N.....	\$ 472.10
-------------	-------------	--------------	-----------

STATES IN ACTION

States/Source	Gifts in Sept. 2004	Gifts thru Sept. 2003	Gifts thru Sept. 2004
Alabama.....	\$ 35,830.24	\$ 284,720.11	\$ 315,171.60
Arizona.....	582.00	6,527.45	4,896.71
Arkansas.....	37,400.84	342,314.20	388,270.65
California.....	3,461.53	56,812.50	57,869.77
Canada.....	316.57	2,938.79	2,959.49
Colorado.....	106.93	2,661.23	1,992.57
Florida.....	1,314.15	123,222.47	132,049.43
Georgia.....	26,960.73	192,404.64	239,550.69
Hawaii.....	0.00	0.00	350.00
Idaho.....	537.81	2,208.23	3,257.30
Illinois.....	17,507.99	159,525.24	192,446.90
Indiana.....	4,324.19	51,429.67	39,404.71
Iowa.....	0.00	768.22	1,295.00
Kansas.....	5.42	858.10	1,006.46
Kentucky.....	7,216.23	64,684.33	72,818.17
Louisiana.....	0.00	2,312.50	217.50
Maryland.....	3,213.84	43,980.41	34,605.71
Michigan.....	9,965.88	151,707.22	128,127.58
Mississippi.....	2,184.08	67,348.33	59,749.65
Missouri.....	41,662.24	366,940.81	419,438.51
Montana.....	0.00	1,750.00	1,650.00
Nebraska.....	0.00	1,500.00	650.00
New Mexico.....	379.71	1,170.31	1,807.36
North Carolina.....	57,031.62	544,798.13	557,978.46
* Northeast Assn.....	445.00	1,199.75	995.00
** Northwest Assn.....	0.00	2,621.96	2,705.52
Ohio.....	14,091.04	131,158.53	159,546.45
Oklahoma.....	50,000.98	348,846.17	393,774.53
Pennsylvania.....	125.00	3,171.00	3,800.20
South Carolina.....	29,217.56	285,344.58	311,885.89
Tennessee.....	54,195.63	538,713.73	595,719.12
Texas.....	831.50	56,242.89	49,578.89
Virgin Islands.....	0.00	1,250.00	3,800.00
Virginia.....	8,227.02	49,938.63	75,084.72
West Virginia.....	7,460.87	115,995.01	108,611.37
WNAC.....	0.00	128,838.65	107,231.42
FWB Foundation.....	0.00	30,547.37	33,556.21
Miscellaneous.....	1,529.00	15,878.86	18,783.18
Totals.....	\$ 416,125.60	\$ 4,182,330.02	\$ 4,522,636.72

*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.



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

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

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.

Please clip and mail this label with all correspondence.

Web address: www.fwbgo.com



Forlines' Focus

By James Forlines, General Director

Last Regular *HeartBeat*

This is the last regular issue of *HeartBeat* magazine! Since 1961 it has been the official voice of Free Will Baptist Foreign (International) Missions. At the 2001 National Association of Free Will Baptists delegates created a publications committee to study the feasibility of combining all Free Will Baptist denominational publications into one magazine.

This year the committee brought their final report to our national body. Their recommendation was to combine the periodicals of the Executive Office, Board of Retirement, Foreign Missions, Free Will Baptist Bible College, Home Missions, Master's Men, and Randall House into a single publication to begin in 2005. The recommendation was adopted. *HeartBeat*, therefore, will cease in its printed version.

A New Bimonthly Magazine

The new publication is slated to be a 48-page bimonthly magazine. All those on the *HeartBeat* mailing list will automatically receive the new combined publication. The first issue is scheduled

for delivery in April/May of 2005.

A Commemorative Issue

Though this will be the last regular issue of *HeartBeat*, a special commemorative issue will be published after the first of the year. Don Robirds, the editor of *HeartBeat* for 32 years (now retired), will be compiling information from throughout the history of the magazine. Pictures and stories from bygone years will enable a nostalgic look down memory lane.

I think it will be encouraging to see how God has blessed throughout the years. The early sixties ushered in one of the greatest growth phases of the Mission. New fields were opened and large numbers of new missionaries swelled the ranks of those serving on foreign fields. Many of those who went during those years have now come to retirement.

Highlighting Major Events

Major events have shaped our direction. Whether it was Castro kicking Mom and Pop Willey out of Cuba, the fire that destroyed our hospital in Ivory Coast, West Africa, or the political unrest surrounding the United States' military action in Panama, challenges have been met and God has been faithful. This commemorative issue will be one you will want to save and review in years to come.

While *HeartBeat* will be discontin-

ued, we maintain our commitment to communicate to you what God is doing around the world through Free Will Baptists. Of course, the new publication will contain pages dedicated to informing you about world evangelism. In addition, we have created a new quarterly video magazine called *Impulse*. The *IM* stands for International Missions (our new name), and the *pulse* is a way to keep the memory of *HeartBeat* alive.

Video Footage from the Fields

Impulse is a resource that brings professional quality video footage direct from our fields around the world. This will provide the opportunity for you and your church to gain an up-close look at how God is moving "on the fields." You may subscribe to *Impulse* on-line at www.fwbgo.com or by a toll-free phone call to 877-767-7736.

In their report to the National Association this year the publications committee stated, "*Changing to a single publication will be a dramatic change for our denomination. However, it offers us a great opportunity to present a united front and a united effort for the cause of world evangelism.*" We certainly look forward to the fulfillment of that opportunity.

James Forlines