

Heartbeat[®]

Newsheet Edition

APRIL 1976



Sharing the Living Christ Through Call-a-thon 1976

**615
244-3470**

CALL-A-THON 1976 offers each Christian, each church, and every Sunday school an opportunity to "SHARE THE LIVING CHRIST WITH A DYING WORLD."

April 18 is Easter. It is also CALL-A-THON SUNDAY for foreign missions. This unique combination should challenge Free Will Baptists to participate

in CALL-A-THON in an unprecedented way since "because He lives, we also live."

The Department of Foreign Missions is urging at least 250 churches to participate in Call-a-thon this year by receiving a special offering or by giving their Sunday school or church offering to foreign missions. They are encouraged to call the Department of Foreign Missions between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in their own time zones to report the amount to be given.

In 1975 a total of 188 churches participated in Call-a-thon by calling and reporting a total of \$15,361.36. A goal of \$25,000 has been set for this year.

ONE PHONE CALL WILL DO IT!

Some confusion may arise due to the "Big Day Phone-In" campaign sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Sunday School Department. But churches and individuals need not be upset nor confused. Those calling Foreign Missions (615) 244-3470 for Call-a-thon may also report their Sunday school attendance, and those calling the Sunday School Department (615) 242-2624 may report their Call-a-thon offering at the same time.





emphasis: world

EVENTS OF NEWS AND PRAYER SIGNIFICANCE

lobi evangelist dies

Doropo, Ivory Coast—Joseph is dead! The Lobi evangelist, reported seriously ill in a recent *Heartbeat* edition, died here on January 28.

Although his wife is the only Christian in his family, his mother and brother agreed to have a Christian funeral. "Joseph doesn't follow the fetish," one brother was quoted as saying, "so we'll let the Christians have a Christian funeral, then we'll bury him in the village separate from the other graves."

Joseph had been very active in evangelism in several villages until his illness. Last year more than 27 converts under his ministry were baptized. Joseph also served as pastor of the church in Doropo.

Cause of death is uncertain, but a brain tumor was the suspected cause.

tund-raising effort

Tulsa, Okla.—A youth Valentine banquet was held in Ward's Cafeteria here Saturday, February 14, as part of an effort to raise \$1,000 for missions. Approximately 190 people attended the event which was sponsored by the Greater Tulsa Association of Free Will Baptists.

The effort resulted in \$2,000 to be divided equally between missionary Joe Haas from France and home missionary Buddy Drake of Oklahoma.

Special speakers for the event

were Reverend Bill Jones, president of Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College; Reverend Reford Wilson, professor of missions at Hillsdale and former general director of Foreign Missions; Elaine Allen, a summer missionary to Ivory Coast in 1973; and Melvin Clark, who has served as a summer missionary in Puerto Rico.

Money was raised through a king and queen crowning event. Each church was permitted a king and queen candidate. The church which raised the most cash was permitted to crown its candidates king and queen.

bible teachers needed

Jos, Nigeria—The government of Nigeria is seeking to train 50,000 primary school teachers needed by the end of 1976 to implement the government's free education program. Many of these are expected to be recruited from overseas.

To help meet the demand for teachers, training colleges are being built and existing ones are being expanded. It is reported that Muslim authorities are giving crash courses to teachers in Islamic schools, intending to place them in government schools.

Overseas applicants are being accepted by the government. Bible study is a part of the curriculum, and English is the language of instruction. For information write to Sudan Interior Mission, Cedar Grove, N.J. 07009.

news briets

Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil—Laercio da Silva, pastor of the Campinas church in the state of Sao Paulo, preached an evangelistic meeting here February 4-8. Three people made decisions for Christ.

Chesapeake, W.V.—Mr. Norris B. Smith, father of missionary appointee Alice Smith, died February 23 at the age of 62 in his home here. He had suffered from a prolonged illness.

Doropo, Ivory Coast—Eddie Payne expressed praise as he recently informed the mission office that another shipment of cassette tapes, cassette players, and spare parts were received with very little customs charges.

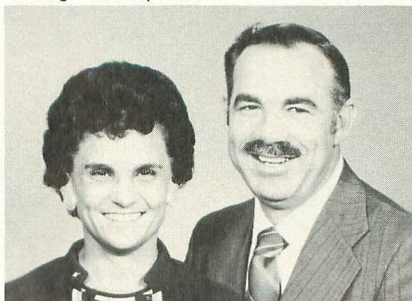
Agua Buena, Panama—Daily Vacation Bible School was conducted in the Agua Buena church during one week in February with a daily attendance of 107. The DVBS was conducted by the national Christians. Bill and Glenda Fulcher helped as they were needed.

Nashville, Tenn.—General Director Rolla D. Smith and the Reverend Eugene Waddell, board member and pastor of Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, left March 18 from California en route to Japan where they were to meet with missionaries and nationals to discuss plans and problems of the field.

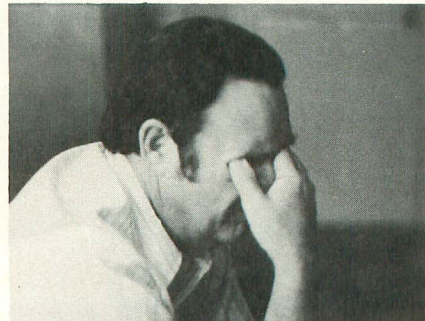
Joseph, lobi evangelist, died



*funds raised for haases;
furlough date april 23*



robinson prays; requests prayer



Rivera, Uruguay—Missionary Paul Robinson has requested prayer for the Machado family in the church here. The father has forbidden the wife and five children to attend church. It has been reported that he has filed for a divorce in an effort to get custody of the children so they cannot attend.

Ethiopia—Vicious tribal fighting had raged in the Darassa area of Ethiopia until revival broke out. According to a recent report, missionaries and national Christians are working to disciple and strengthen 23,000 who have made professions of faith in Christ since last September.

scriptures after 40 years

Soddo, Ethiopia—The church has been established among the Wallamo people here for 40 years, and remarkable growth has resulted in the formation of some 1,000 congregations, yet no part of the Bible had been put into the local language until recently.

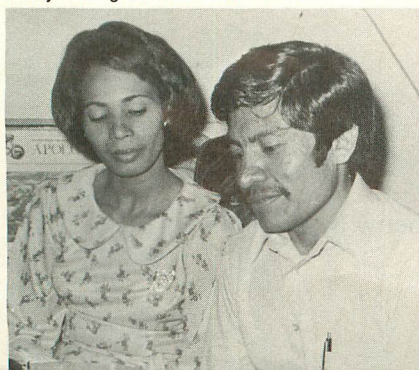
Three years ago the government of Ethiopia finally gave permission to translate tribal languages. Translation efforts have resulted in the completion of the Gospel of Luke in Wolayta, which will soon be followed by the whole New Testament.

pastor takes a wife

Panama City, Panama—Gabriel Perez, pastor of the Free Will Baptist church in Panama City, and Valentina Estrada of the Agua Buena Free Will Baptist Church were married here on February 14.

Gabriel assumed the role as pastor of the church when Tom Willey, Jr., left for furlough.

newlyweds gabriel and valentina



opportunity presented

Rivera, Uruguay—Missionary Paul Robinson has requested prayer that another missionary couple be sent to Uruguay. His plea is based on a door of opportunity which has opened in Montevideo, the capital city.

"Here in the interior we lose many young people," writes Paul. "On the Uruguay side they go to Montevideo. On the Brazil side they go to Porto Alegre. If we had someone in Montevideo we could immediately start a work with at least ten people who are already believers, and very possibly we could round up more."

Until a short time ago the missionaries were able to direct Christians to a doctrinally sound church in Montevideo, but Paul disclosed the founder of that work was recently killed in an automobile accident.

returns from europe

Nashville, Tenn.—Rolla Smith, general director, returned February 17 from Europe where he visited missionaries in Spain and France in an effort to aid them in selecting areas of witness and arranging personnel assignments and furlough schedules.

Leaving New York on January 28, Mr. Smith flew directly to Madrid, Spain, where he was met by Lonnie and Anita Sparks and Dock and Norma Caton. He spent most of six days looking over Madrid and the surrounding area as he discussed with the Sparks and Catons plans for beginning their work.

On February 4, he traveled to Geneva, Switzerland, where he was met by the Joe Haas family. They

haas interprets for smith in rennes



drove to Albertville, France, the same day to meet with the Jerry Webbs, the Lynn Mileys, and the Dennis Teagues who are enrolled in French language study.

February 6-16 was spent in the area of Nantes and Rennes. Rolla met with the France field council February 12 in the Rennes church and had a worship service with the missionaries on February 13. He discussed plans with the Don Sextons, the Jerry Gibbs, and Patsy Vanhook.

Mr. Smith expressed this opinion: "The greatest need in France is for young national men to be called to carry the gospel to their own people. In Spain the missionaries need direction from the Lord to individuals who will be responsive to the message and to a specific area in which to work."

bible translation

Poland—The Polish government has granted the Bible Society in Poland permission to print and distribute 50,000 copies of a new translation of the Bible.

The new translation, the Millennium Bible, is named for the 1,000th anniversary of Christianity in Poland.

georgia churches rally

Colquitt, Ga.—The Bellview Free Will Baptist Church here and the First Free Will Baptist Church of Jesup, Ga., recently rallied behind the Sam Wilkinson family to the tune of \$3,000.

In an effort to get the Wilkinsons' missionary account out of the red, the Jesup church gave a special offering of \$2,000 and the church in Colquitt raised \$1,000.

Georgia is Sam's home state.

wilkinson receives \$1,000 check from randy clenny, colquitt



editor's catchall

CASSETTE MINISTRY

ONE OF THE greatest tools of communication, teaching, and training is the cassette tape. It is also one of the best time-saving devices of modern days. Add to that its relative inexpensiveness and the cassette becomes very important today.

In February I suggested helping missionaries by sending them cassette tapes for edification. Now I want to encourage all readers to continue praying for and giving to the cassette ministry among unsaved peoples abroad.

As Eddie Payne has become involved in preparing master tapes and reproducing these to be used in outlying villages, God has opened doors of evangelism and training which previously were only cracked.

Plans are being made to expand this ministry in the Ivory Coast. Missionaries in Brazil are interested in beginning a similar outreach through cassettes. Of particular interest is the use of cassettes in follow-up work among new converts. Once again this could prove to be a time-saving, ministry-expanding opportunity.

In addition to use of cassettes on the foreign field, the Department of Foreign Missions is exploring the possibilities of producing and making cassette tapes available for use

in mission services, in Sunday school classes, in Church Training Service, and in giving instructions for missionary conferences.

Some missionaries are already recording stories of actual happenings on the mission field. These can serve to challenge young people or adults through the demonstration of God at work.

Missionary messages by missions leaders, foreign missionaries, and missions-oriented pastors might serve as thought provokers. Interviews with missionaries might prove interesting. Missions training classes could even be made available through the cassette tape.

Some have expressed interest in receiving filmstrips or slide programs along with an accompanying cassette. This is also a possibility for the near future. As new filmstrips are developed they will be prepared with both a 33 1/3 RPM record and a cassette tape for the option of those showing the filmstrip.

As God provides, and as individuals express interest, the Department of Foreign Missions will expand this ministry for greater outreach in the local church as well as around the world. Personally, I have never been so excited about the possibilities of any single tool as I am about the cassette tape.

Why don't you get excited with me? And while you're thinking about it, you might want to contribute to this ministry.

financial facts

Through February 29

On deposit February 1	\$ 277,776.87
Receipts through February 29	181,657.71
Disbursements through February 29	92,763.31
Projected receipts through February	205,334.50
Total 1976 Foreign Missions Budget	\$1,232,007.00

Missionary Deficit Accounts

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Callaway	\$ 114.13	McLain	\$2,169.10
Deeds	3,432.98	Morgan	1,297.25
Dickens	1,301.80	Payne	1,464.55
Ellison	282.58	Pinkerton	995.25
Filkins	2,029.97	Poole	2,810.40
Gibbs	2,845.89	Sturgill	7.18
Haas	5,380.39	Waid	1,837.16
Hersey	5,430.52	Willey, Mabel	50.19
Inscoe	5,933.23	Wode	398.60
Lee	357.00	S. India	111.80

You can multiply your mission dollar value by giving to the

CASSETTE MINISTRY



Send your gift now to:

**FREE WILL BAPTIST
FOREIGN MISSIONS**

P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

April '76

Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Heartbeat

Newsheet Edition

POST OFFICE BOX 1088
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37202

Vol. 16, No. 4

April, 1976

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Published monthly by the Board of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Box 1088, 1134 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville, Tenn. 37202. Send correspondence and changes of address to this address. Subscription free upon request. Copyright reserved © 1976. Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tenn.

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