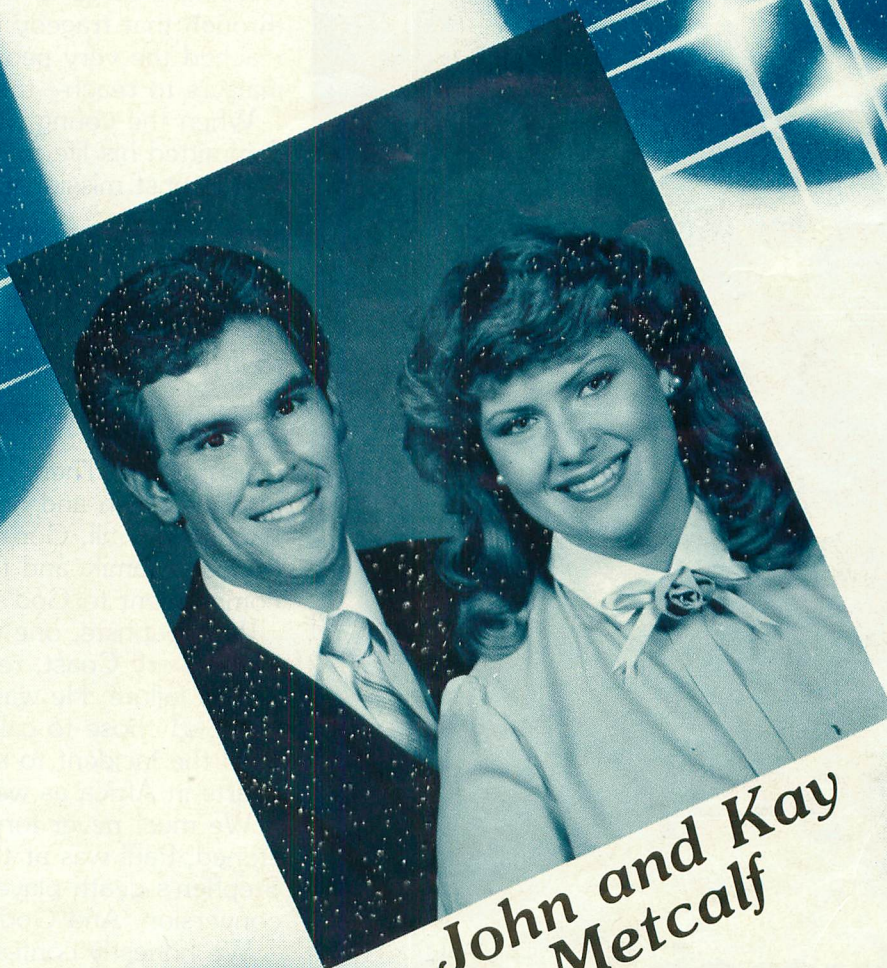


HEARTBEAT

APRIL 1984

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions



John and Kay
Metcalf

*"Who hath known the mind of the Lord?
Or who hath been his counsellor?"
Romans 11:34.*

Editorial

Tragedy or Triumph?

Death is dreaded by most everyone. It is so mysterious! And man has been endowed with a sense of self preservation, a desire to survive. That is important to all of us! We all know that death is inevitable and, yet, we do our best to avoid it. And we often face a tragedy involving God's servants with a sense of amazement and wonder, "Why?"

Perhaps in this life we will never know the answer for sure, but we can look at seeming tragedies of the past and know that God used them to honor His name and to reach many people with the gospel of Christ.

The murder of five missionaries in Ecuador in 1956 seemed like such a waste. Yet, from that incident alone hundreds of individuals have been challenged to go to the regions beyond. And through that tragedy the gospel eventually reached the very people God had burdened the martyrs to reach—the Auca Indians.

When the young Brazilian, Jose Mendes, committed his life for missionary service, Free Will Baptist missionaries and Christian friends

We can look at seeming tragedies of the past and know that God used them to honor His name.

were thrilled. Then, he was the victim of an airplane crash and people wondered why it happened. Still, God used it to touch the lives of Jose's family and to stimulate others to full commitment to God's service.

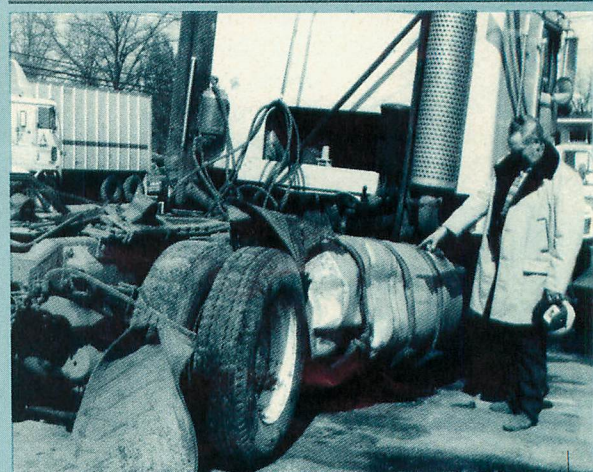
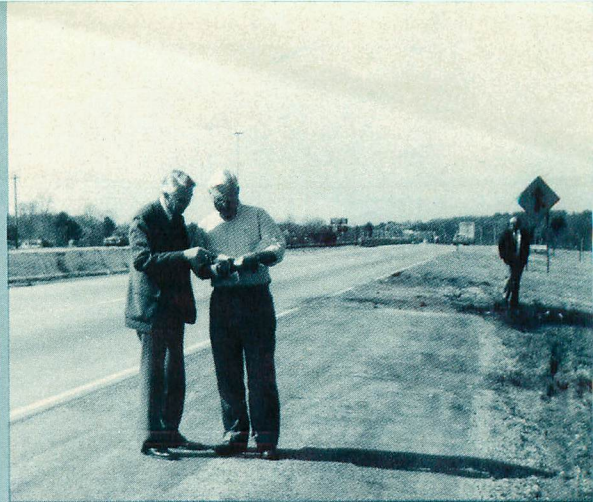
Jean-Baptiste, one of the few national pastors in the Ivory Coast, recently died from chronic kidney failure. He was needed in the ministry but God chose to call him to glory. And He used the incident to speak to hundreds of hearts in Africa as well as in the United States.

We must never forget that when Stephen was stoned, Paul was at the scene. No doubt Stephen's death played a role in Paul's conversion. And God's purposes were fulfilled.

We honestly confess. We do not know why God chose to take John and Kay Metcalf home at this time. But we do know God and we acknowledge His omniscience and His sovereign will. We sincerely believe, "Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it" 1 Thessalonians 5:24.



(Clockwise, above) Firemen and rescue workers seek to remove the bodies of John and Kay Metcalf from the wreckage of their 1979 Chevrolet Caprice Classic; foreign missions associate director Eugene Waddell (left) and Reverend Jerry Dudley, Kay's father, review the account of the accident at the scene; and John's father, Mr. Jack Metcalf, points out the place of impact on the diesel tank of the tractor.



Our Disappointment— God's Appointment

by Don Robirds

Who could have imagined it? When John and Kay Metcalf walked into the foreign missions office on Tuesday morning, February 28, they seemed excited. They were elated with what God was doing in their services. They shared joys and delights over their opportunities to minister to churches and challenge people in Florida and Georgia with the great commission and their personal commitment to God's call. The day was cold, snowy and dreary but—as Ruthann Hall put it—"They were like a ray of sunshine to all of us."

I felt a great deal of personal satisfaction as they shared their application of tips I had given them on making personal

displays. They had done an outstanding job of making flipcharts, posters and stand-up displays pinpointing their place of anticipated ministry—Brazil.

Time was spent with Brother Rolla Smith, general director, and with Brother Eugene Waddell, associate director. The executive staff took them to lunch and spent time in discussing their ministry and sharing God's blessings. It was a blessed time together!

Then, they dismissed themselves and left in the spitting snow to return to the mission office for a short time before embarking on the concluding portion of their journey homeward to Tulsa, Okla.

Back in the offices "they seemed to be so much at ease

and acted like they really felt a part of the foreign missions family" some of the secretarial staff stated. "They were so happy—so full of plans. They acted like they just wanted to stay around and *enjoy the* fellowship and oneness of the family relationship. We commented about it after they finally left at about 3:45 p.m."

No one suspected the sudden shock that was just ahead. While snow had been falling intermittently all day long, it was not sticking—at least not on the streets. But as evening wore on, the temperature began to drop and the melted snow began to freeze, creating hazardous road conditions.

Continued on page 4—

→Continued from page 3

At 5:45 p.m. as they approached exit 82 on Interstate 40 at Jackson, Tenn., a tractor trailer loomed "out of nowhere" and before they could react in any way, a fiery crash engulfed the car in flames. And a state trooper, on the scene within 30 seconds of impact, said, "There was no way to get them out." All evidence of the accident indicated death occurred on impact.

God's final appointment came while John and Kay were en route to the field where they felt God was sending them. They were faithful to that calling but God had even better things in store. And while many of us are left wondering why, John and Kay already know the answer. We can only trust and "know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

While many of us are left wondering why, John and Kay already know the answer.

More than 600 friends, relatives, and brothers and sisters in Christ gathered at West Tulsa Free Will Baptist Church in Oklahoma, on Monday afternoon, March 5, for funeral services. The obituary was read by J. Reford Wilson, the Metcalfs' missions instructor at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in Moore, Okla. Keith Burden, Kay's brother-in-law, gave the eulogy and Rolla Smith, general director of foreign missions, commented

on the Metcalfs' commitment and ministry.

Prior to the sermon by their pastor, Bailey Thompson, Doug and Joyce Little sang "Jesus Never Fails." Thompson, pastor of East Tulsa FWB Church, spoke on the Macedonian Call from Acts 16. In his early comments, he stated, "As long as we live with John and Kay in our memory, missions will always be in our heart." He shared some of John and Kay's vision and calling and challenged hearers to listen to the cry of the lost, accept God's call and make the commitment to missionary service.

Former Hillsdale president and current foreign missions board chairman Bill Jones conducted committal services at Ridge Lawn Cemetery in Collinsville, Okla.

Brazil needs missionaries and now John and Kay are greatly missed even though they never got to the field. For several years it seemed impossible to get new missionaries into the country. As that possibility changed, John and Kay came on the scene—the answer to many prayers. Now God has altered those plans. Evidently He plans to answer those prayers through others. Perhaps someone who is reading this article will respond to God's call.

Whoever or whatever—God's appointments are never disappointments to His people or His work. He is Lord! And the Metcalfs are in His wonderful, loving care.

We, at the foreign missions department and the Board of Foreign Missions, offer our deepest sympathy and our sincere prayers to their

families: Kay's parents, Reverend and Mrs. Jerry Dudley of Choctaw, Okla.; John's father and stepmother, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Metcalf of Collinsville, Okla.; Kay's sisters, Brenda Webb and Carla Williams of Oklahoma City and Debbie Burden of Tulsa; John's two sisters, Amy Jo and Julia Ann; his three step-sisters, Nancy Bell, Rita Brown, and Sharon Nichols; and his step-brother, Duane Nichols.

"As long as we live with John and Kay in our memory, missions will always be in our heart."

We have yet to see what God intends to accomplish through this seeming earthly tragedy. But we must praise Him for the millions of miles previously traveled by our missionaries on deputation with few accidents and only minor injuries.

Perhaps He's telling us—Free Will Baptists across the country—that we need to be missions-minded and give more without requiring the presence of missionaries. Maybe He wants more of us to commit our lives to help raise the needed missionary funds. And maybe, just maybe, He wants more of us to commit ourselves to missionary service—even in Brazil!

A John and Kay Metcalf Scholarship Fund for missionary students has been established at Hillsdale FWB College in their memory. And the Master's Men have chosen to honor them in their Brazil project. They have named the new dormitory building they sponsored at the camp property "Metcalf Memorial Dormitory."



Master's Men Don Wilbanks (left) and Carroll Poole from Clarksville, Tenn., prepare to depart from Nashville Metro Airport en route to Brazil to build a boys' dormitory at the youth camp.

Two Master's Men Leave for Brazil Dorm Project

Nashville, Tenn.—Mr. Carroll Poole and Mr. Don Wilbanks, both of Clarksville, Tenn. left March 12 from the airport in Nashville en route to Brazil to construct a boys' dormitory at the youth camp in Jaboticabal.

The Master's Men have taken the new building as a project, an \$8,000 effort, plus the two men agreed to donate their time and skills while working with Brazilian laborers in erecting the building.

Poole, a brother of missionary Bobby Poole, and Wilbanks are both skilled in construction work.

The men plan to return to the United States on April 7.

Nantes Church Group "Organizes" for Outreach

France—According to a report from missionary John Murray, the Nantes church group held an organizational meeting in February. The new "Evangelistic Association," which they chose to call the group, is seeking to emphasize outreach and evangelism.

"In that meeting we had four who signed to be members," writes John. "We are excited about beginning with eight people that are committed to the task of winning souls." Six or eight others are committed to soul-winning but have not yet signed as members of the new organization.

John noted a high attendance of 67 on the Sunday following the or-

ganizational meeting. Two people were baptized that Sunday and they had invited their friends to see them baptized.

Panama Churches Report Over 100 Converts in '83

Panama—Over 100 professions of faith in 1983 were reported by Panama churches at the annual convention of the Panamanian Association of Free Will Baptists. They met at the Agua Buena church on January 9, 1984.

According to missionary Steve Lytle, over 100 people were on hand to hear the reports from delegates of the churches and to conduct business. A round-table discussion highlighted the meeting as Gabriel Perez, Raul Sanes, "Mom" Willey and Steve served on the panel. Mrs. Willey was visiting Panama at the time of the convention.

Carlos Urbina, deacon of the Panama City church, was elected to his third term as president of the association.

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Japan—Dale and Sandra Bishop have requested prayer for Mrs. Ueki, a 65-year-old Bible and English student. At the end of a recent class she wiped tears away and said, "I need to believe in God, don't I?" The Bishops begin furlough in June.

Panama—Raul Sanes, 1983 graduate of Rio Grande Bible Institute in

Edinburg, Tex., has been called to pastor the Panama City Free Will Baptist Church in Panama. He officially assumed the pastoral role on the first of January.

Spain—Jeff and Susan Turnbough have moved to Alcala de Henares, Spain where they will be working with Lonnie and Anita Sparks for the remainder of their first term. They will also be completing their language study at the University of Madrid. They were living in Majadahonda.

New Bern, N.C.—William Fulcher, Sr., 82-year-old father of mission board member Bill Fulcher, Jr., died in New Bern, N.C. on Tuesday evening, February 28. He was buried on Friday, March 2. Bill, Jr. served as a missionary to Uruguay and Panama prior to his current Stateside ministry among the Hispanic population.

Bixby, Okla.—Robert and Judy Bryan became parents of their second child, Jennifer Elaine, born January 9, 1984. The new little girl weighed eight pounds, four ounces, and has brown hair and blue eyes. The Bryans actually received the baby by adoption on February 2.

France—Miss Patsy Vanhook, missionary to St. Nazaire, France, is scheduled to begin furlough the last week in May.

Panama—Larry Inscoe reports a good spirit in the church at Las Tablas, Panama. He noted one person made a profession of faith on February 26. Since he and the family returned, he has baptized three people and has six more who are awaiting baptism. Larry also re-

Continued on page 6—>

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

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—Continued from page 5

organized the Sunday school and divided three classes into six classes.

Midwest City, Okla.—Jerry and Carol Pinkerton in the Ivory Coast became grandparents for the second time on January 3 as John Daniel was born to Howard and Joanna Pinkerton in Midwest City, Okla. The baby weighed seven pounds, twelve ounces.

Japan—Miss Carla Nunney of Raleigh, N.C. spent several days in Tokyo on business and paid a weekend visit to missionaries Fred and Evelyn Hersey on January 21 and 22. The Herseys have known the Carl Nunney family for many years.

Smith Reports First Converts in Montevideo

Uruguay—Upon his return from Uruguay and Brazil, General Director Rolla Smith reported having witnessed the first two conversions in Montevideo where the Walter Ellisons work. A young man around 20 years of age and a teenage girl were saved on Sunday night, January 15 following Rolla's message on the new birth.

Smith also reported five adult decisions for Christ in Araras, Brazil where he conducted a weekend missionary revival for Ken Eagleton. A young man also dedicated his life to full-time Christian service during the



Rolla Smith, general director (right), preaches at the Araras FWB Church in Brazil while Terry Eagleton, associate missionary, translates for him.

meeting. The church responded with \$135 per month in faith-promise commitments to missions outreach.

One person was saved on a Wednesday night at Conselheiro Lafaiete, where Earnie Deeds works.

The general director noted progress in most of the work in Brazil and expressed special excitement over prospects for the work in Uberlandia.

Rolla left the United States on January 11 and returned on February 10.

Callaway Reports Five Saved in First Year

Spain—Missionary Ron Callaway reports at least five conversions in Mostoles, Spain, during the past year since the work began. One other young boy made a profession of faith but hasn't given evidence of genuine conversion.

Callaway noted their largest attendance came on Sunday morning, January 15, when they had 26 people in services.

Regular Sunday evening Bible study was begun on January 29. "We waited to start this until we saw a desire for such a meeting on the part of Christians," Ron concluded.

Bondoukou Campaign Set for April 10-22

Ivory Coast—A city-wide evangelistic campaign is scheduled for April 10-22 by Free Will Baptists in Bondoukou, Ivory Coast.

Missionary Patrick Dickens re-

quested special prayer for the campaign:

(1) Pastor Victor of the Bondoukou church needs strength and wisdom in preparing for the campaign.

(2) The Christians and missionaries need revival and proper priorities.

(3) Literature is to be distributed in an effort to prepare hearts.

(4) Muslims need the message of Christ.

(5) Governmental workers need Christ.

(6) The missionaries need good health to work effectively.

Seven Nationalities Take Part in Youth Meeting

France—France and six other countries were represented at a youth meeting held on January 29 at the Nantes Free Will Baptist Church in France. Other countries represented included Camaroun, Zaire, Canada, Great Britain, Mauritius, and the United States.

Fifteen youth from the Nantes and St. Nazaire FWB churches gathered for a buffet lunch, singing, skits and a three-part "mini-course" on Bible study led by missionary John Murray.

According to missionary Allan Crowson, the Bible study was divided as follows: session one—why and how to study the Bible, session two—an example of Bible study, and session three—student group participation in a Bible study.

Allan handled the music, skits, and

Missionary John Murray (top, right) teaches a "mini-course" on Bible study during a special youth meeting at the Nantes FWB Church in France.



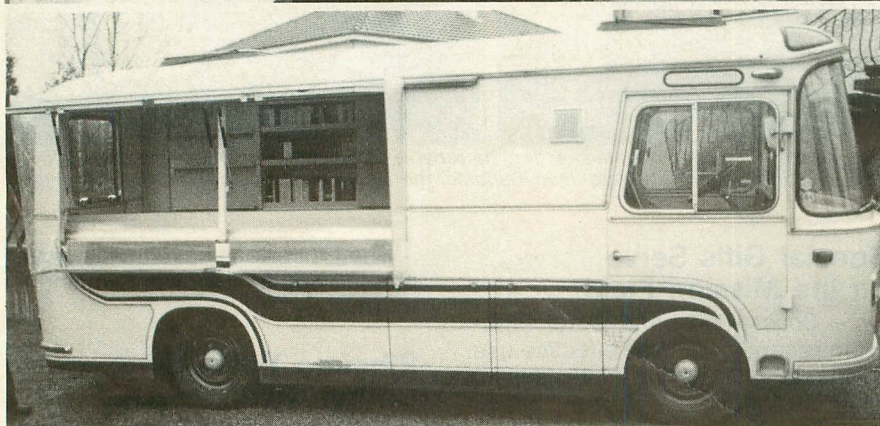
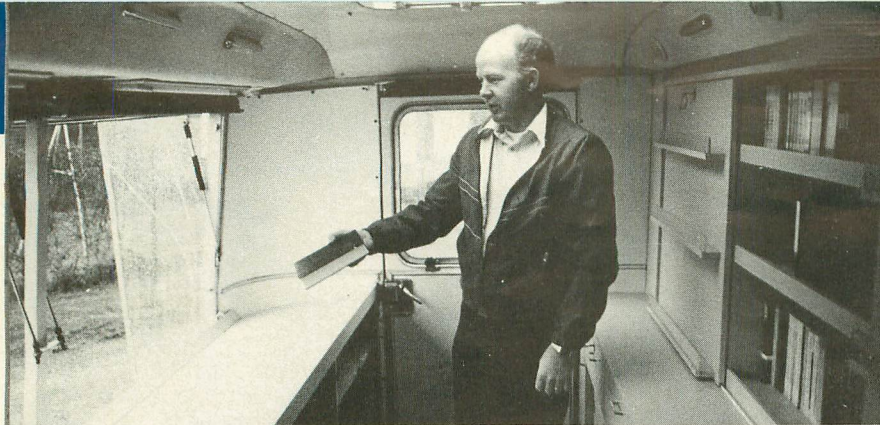
Special Gifts

These people gave special gifts to foreign missions in February in memory of loved ones:

| Donor | In Memory of |
|---|------------------|
| Wallmathsville Union Church Green Top, Mo. | Mrs. Cleo Cooper |
| Mildred P. Lee Smithfield, N.C. | M. J. Allen |

Memorial Gift to Foreign Missions

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Amount \$ | _____ |
| Given in memory of | _____ |
| Given by: Name | _____ |
| Address | _____ |
| City | _____ |
| State | _____ |
| Zip | _____ |
| Please send memorial card to: | |
| Name | _____ |
| Address | _____ |
| City | _____ |
| State | _____ |
| Zip | _____ |



John Murray (top) demonstrates the use of the bookmobile (bottom) recently purchased by the French field council to use in evangelism.

other details while his wife LaRue and Pansy Murray prepared lunch and snacks. Patsy Vanhook helped with transportation.

Bookmobile Purchased for French Ministry

France—The French field council of Free Will Baptist missionaries purchased a bookmobile in January to be used for evangelism in open-air markets in the cities of Brittany, France.

Missionaries noted the year-old van was purchased from Operation Mobilization who had outfitted the 18-foot vehicle for carrying and selling literature. Due to personnel difficulties, the Paris-bound mission became unable to use the van, so FWB missionaries purchased the bookmobile for less than \$3,000, including insurance.

Discouragement, Blessings Reported by Earnie Deeds

Brazil—Missionary Earnie Deeds cited numerous reasons for discouragement in the work at Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil: non-attendance by church members, non-response to more than 200 neighborhood invitations to a weekend meeting, a deacon's marital problems, conflicts be-

tween saved and unsaved mates, recent vandalism to the church building, and the diminishing number of the missionary team in Brazil.

In spite of all this, Deeds reported a fruitful weekend meeting with Sebastian of the Barbacena Free Will Baptist Church, resumption of work on the unfinished church building, and conversion of an 18-year-old girl who has been attending church for nearly a year. Earnie also expressed praise for a time of fellowship with missionaries during the annual field council meeting.

Richards Cites Converts, Asks Prayer for Rain

Ivory Coast—Missionary Norman Richards reported two young men and a young girl had "prayed" in January. "The young lady is a sister of one of the ladies who come to our English service," says Norman. "She had been witnessed to by her sister, but Bessie showed her the plan of salvation."

Joseph, one of the young men, came as a result of the witness of a church member and the other young man had been attending church for a good while. Norman led him to Christ.

The water shortage in the Ivory

Coast is so serious, Norman requested people to pray "that when our rainy season starts, God will give us a lot of rain. There has already been a problem of food shortage. If the rains don't come as normal, there will be a famine."

Cowarts Report Progress After Return to Brazil

Brazil—Jim and Karen Cowart returned to Brazil the latter part of October, 1983 to find the church in Jaboticabal going through "tremendous trials" due to the Cowart's absence.

"Satan has tried to devour our people as a roaring lion," writes Jim. "Many of those who were nearly destroyed have returned to the Lord with renewed vigor. Two have been saved and several have rededicated their lives to the Lord and are actively working for Him."

On Sunday, January 22, Lelis Fachini, a senior pilot with the Brazilian branch of Missionary Aviation Fellowship, presented a report and slides of his work. Lelis is from the Araras Free Will Baptist Church and receives support from the Jaboticabal church.

One Year Has Passed; Thangba Is Still Alive

Ivory Coast—"We came home on furlough requesting hundreds of people to pray for Thangba," says Mike Cousineau, missionary to the Ivory Coast.

Thangba is a Lobi boy whose father is a powerful witch doctor. He had pronounced Thangba a fool for leaving the family idols and following

Continued on back cover—>

Financial Summary

Through February 29

Substance

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Total contributions in February | \$ 170,126.07 |
| Total contributions through February | 336,451.44 |
| Total disbursements through February | 338,982.36 |
| Projected receipts through February | 452,444.00 |
| Total 1984 Budget | \$2,714,688.00 |

Shortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

| | | | |
|---------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Bishop | \$3,213.80 | Payne | \$ 1,824.52 |
| Ellison | 2,578.49 | Robinson | 3,142.27 |
| Filkins | 2,183.47 | Turnbough | 2,034.05 |
| Hersey | 757.61 | Webb | 12,031.77 |
| Lee | 1,755.91 | Willey | 186.09 |
| Miley | 1,864.22 | | |
| Total | | | \$31,572.20 |

—>Continued from page 7

the God of the white man. Then, he had declared, "You won't live a year."

To those who faithfully prayed, Mike concluded, "Your year is up. God has been victorious!"

New Attendance Records Set at Betania Church

Panama—Attendance records were shattered again at Betania Free Will Baptist Church in Panama: In November preaching service attendance averaged 65.2 and in December it rose to 67.2 with a high of 100 on December 18.

Steve Lytle noted that Sunday school attendance also set an all-time high of 94 on December 18.

"Our people are more enthused than I've ever seen them," says Lytle. "We now have eight adults taking baptismal classes, including two couples."

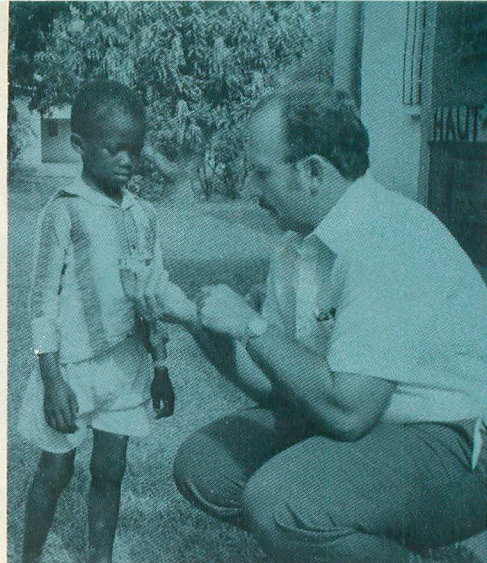
American Missionary Is Released by Guerrillas

Colombia—According to a recent news item in the *Evangelical News Letter*, Minneapolis-born missionary Russell M. Stendal, 28, has been released by the Colombian guerrillas who abducted him on August 14.

Stendal, reportedly unharmed, is now visiting friends in the United States with his wife who is a Colombian.



Jerry Pinkerton uses the table saw (left) he received while on deputation and gives a toy to Gedeon (right), son of the late Jean-Baptiste, the Ivory Coast pastor who died recently.



Special Gifts Serve on the Mission Field

Ivory Coast—Jerry and Carol Pinkerton recently reported effective use of special gifts which they received while on furlough:

"A little boy at Philadelphia Free Will Baptist Church in Folkston, Ga. gave Jerry a small toy to give to a child in Africa," writes Carol. "We gave the toy to Gedeon, son of the late Jean-Baptiste."

Jerry has also made good use of a table saw which he received while holding revival services at the Free Will Baptist church in Mascoutah, Ill. He has used it to make window screen frames, door frames, etc. and plans to use it much more while finishing the Tanda church building.

The Pinkertons have finally moved into the duplex they were waiting for in Tanda.

Ribeirao Youth Sing; Church Reaches Out

Brazil—Some 25 Brazilian young people from the Ribeirao Preto Free Will Baptist Church presented the gospel in a cantata at the church on December 18. Approximately 200 people were present.

According to Bobby and Geneva Poole, several Bible discussion groups are being sponsored by the church to reach out to those who are unchurched. The young people are also making visits in schools and homes for the aged and are presenting the gospel.

CALL-A-THON SUNDAY IS APRIL 29, 1984

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202

Board of Foreign Missions: Bill Jones, chairman; Bob Trimble, vice-chairman; Jim Walker, secretary; Fred Warner, Dan Cronk, J. Reford Wilson, Bill Fulcher, Joe Ange, Norwood Gibson.

Administrative Staff: Rolla D. Smith, general director; R. Eugene Waddell, associate director; Don Robirds, director of communications; Earl Larson, treasurer-administrative assistant.

Please clip and send this label with all correspondence.