

# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world

JUNE 1984

## Letting Our Light Shine

**Call-a-thon Tops \$41,000**

**Widow Proves Faithful**

**Sweeney Transfers**

**Metcalf Dorm Near Completion**





MK Jonathan Miley leads songs at a Bible Club conducted by Charolette Tallent in Lorient, France.

## Tallent Cites Bible Club Effort, Plans Another

*France*—A six-week Bible Club effort in February and March by missionary Charolette Tallent of Lorient, France, has encouraged a repeat attempt possibly between October and December of this year.

The special club endeavor, unique because it was held in the community center, was preceded by extensive publicity through posters, letters, and invitations. The Lynn Mileys and Tim and Deanna Thompson helped in this phase.

Attendance ran 10 for two weeks, 13 during three weeks, and 19 for one week. Some 38 different children heard the message.

"The children were so interested and even asked why the club couldn't go on longer," Charolette concluded.

## Witness to Dying Man Leads to Bible Study

*Brazil*—Missionary Jim Sturgill went to a new area of Campinas, Brazil, to witness to a man who was dying of cancer. The man made a profession of faith and "for about two weeks he gave a glowing testimony and then passed away," according to Vicki Sturgill. Jim preached the funeral and the family and friends were stirred. From this a Bible study sprang up.

According to the Sturgills two men have asked Jim to come and show them how to be saved. The first Bible study in the area was conducted by

Vicki and the Sturgill's daughter Lynne with nine women and seven children present.

Jim and Vicki feel burdened for this new opportunity but feel they cannot handle the extra workload to begin a new congregation in this area. They have requested prayer for wisdom and for a leader for this potential congregation.

## Elaine Allen Married; Takes Temporary Leave

*Tulsa, Okla.*—Elaine Allen, returned missionary to Ivory Coast, was married to Ernest Ray Holland of Comanche, Tex., on May 19 at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church in Tulsa, Okla.

The one-term missionary will begin a temporary leave of absence to await fulfillment of practical experience and processing of the final application for her husband to seek appointment to missionary service. They expect to be able to go to Ivory Coast within two years if he is approved.

Holland, a graduate of Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in Oklahoma, served as a summer missionary to Ivory Coast in 1983.

## Mini Reports from Around the Globe

*Uruguay*—"We know many letters never reach us," writes Paul Robinson in Rivera, Uruguay. Paul lamented the fact that many of his letters most likely never reach their destination in the States. He urged

people to take these problems into account when writing or expecting to receive correspondence.

*Lincoln Park, Mich.*—Mrs. Bessie Lay, mother of missionary representative Billie Sexton, was hospitalized and underwent colon surgery on March 26 at Outer Drive Hospital in Lincoln Park, Mich. At last report she was recovering normally.

*Japan*—Dale and Sandra Bishop are scheduled to leave Japan on June 6 and are to arrive in Oklahoma on June 12 to begin their regular furlough.

*Dothan, Ala.*—Jordan Samuel Hersey was born March 15 in Dothan, Ala. to Samuel and Zoe Hersey. Missionaries Fred and Evelyn Hersey in Japan are the grandparents.

*Spain*—Jeff and Susan Turnbough have moved to Alcala de Henares and report already making friends with two neighbor families. The Turnboughs have requested prayer for these two families: Antonio, Vecinta, and their three children and Jose, Manoli, and their four children.

*Liberal, Mo.*—Stan and Brenda Bunch, missionary appointees to Panama, will be delayed in going to language school until January due to family health needs. They were scheduled to leave for Edinburg, Tex. in August to begin studying Spanish.

*Raleigh, N.C.*—Thomas Ashford Hughes, Jr. and Miss Jan Blair were married on May 4, 1984, in Raleigh, N.C. The newlyweds visited Tom and Nancy Hughes, the groom's parents, in Uberlandia, Brazil, in May.



Missionary appointee Lynn Midgett is to leave for Spain near the end of June.

*Oklahoma City, Okla.*—Miss Lynn Midgett, missionary appointee to Spain, is scheduled to leave near the end of June for language study in Mongold, Spain. She is to be officially commissioned to missionary service on June 10 in Southern Oaks Free Will Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Okla.



**Brazil**—Although details were not available at press time, word has been received that missionary Florine Coscia will have to undergo some type of corrective surgery soon. Christians have been urged to pray for her complete recovery.

**Kingsport, Tenn.**—Mark and Donna Daniel were scheduled to be commissioned on May 27 to missionary service in Ivory Coast. The service was to be held at Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Kingsport, Tenn.

**Moore, Okla.**—Brooke Cousineau, three-year-old daughter of missionaries Mike and Deleen Cousineau, had eye surgery on May 4 to weaken muscles in order to prevent the eyes from turning in. Latest reports indicate she is recovering normally.

**Pryor, Okla.**—Darrel and Lila Nichols, missionary appointees to Ivory Coast, began a six-week preliminary study of French on April 23 at the Berlitz School of Language in Tulsa, Okla. This course is designed to give a good introduction to French so they can more easily begin study in Albertville, France, this fall.

### **Widow, Set Up in Small Business, Proves Faithful**

**Ivory Coast**—Teresa, widow of late Ivory Coast preacher Jean Baptiste, has been aided by Christian gifts and a loan to open a small business in Bondoukou to sustain herself and her son.

According to Ledgel Ferguson, she is proving to be a faithful witness in the business: "Last week a man who was backslidden came in the store and she dealt with him. He prayed for forgiveness."

### **FM Board Meets, Plans Emergency Relief Fund**

**Nashville, Tenn.**—The Board of Foreign Missions gathered in Nashville, Tenn., April 23-26 for the annual session. These actions were taken by the board:

Larry Lovell of Powhatan, Va., was approved for short-term missionary service in France.

Bobby and Geneva Poole and Ken and Marvis Eagleton, both from Brazil, were interviewed.

An emergency relief committee was appointed to design a program and guidelines for receiving and disbursing of emergency relief funds.

Approval was given for preliminary plans of a Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions internship program with a projected date of beginning set for the summer of 1986.

A tentative budget of \$2,853,093 was approved subject to adoption by the National Association.

The same officers will serve another year: board chairman, Bill Jones; vice-chairman, Bob Trimble; and secretary, Jim Walker.

These dates were set for the 1985 sessions: annual meeting, April 22-26; retreat, July 29-August 2; and semiannual sessions, December 2-5.

### **110 Attend 1984 FMF Retreat from FWBCC**

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Five missionaries, six former missionaries, and one foreign missions executive participated with students of Free Will Baptist Bible College at the annual Foreign Missionary Fellowship retreat March 30 through April 1. A total of 110 people were on hand at Camp Na-Co-Me near Centerville, Tenn. for special seminars and services related to missions.

Personalities participating in this year's event included missionaries Bobby and Geneva Poole, Brazil; Tom McCullough, France; Elaine Allen, Ivory Coast; and Bob Shockey, home missionary in Kentucky.

Former missionaries included pioneer in India Laura Belle Barnard, Ella Rae Jones of Ecuador, Bobby and Sue Aycok of Brazil, and Dr. and Mrs. LaVerne Miley of Ivory Coast.

Rolla D. Smith general director of

foreign missions, presided over the communion and feet washing service on Sunday, April 1.

A film entitled "By Love Set Free," shown on Friday night, and a Saturday night campfire service featuring missionary Elaine Allen seemed to highlight the retreat.

FMF president Robert Poole and the other officers coordinated the retreat.

### **Richards Expresses Praise for Rain, Church Growth**

**Ivory Coast**—"A few weeks ago, our family and our missionary co-workers stood on our front porch and cheered loudly," writes Norman Richards from Agnibilekrou, Ivory Coast. "Why all the excitement? It was raining! The Lord is hearing and answering the many prayers for much needed rain.

"During our 15 years in Africa," Norman continues, "we never experienced such severe drought as this year. Many towns and villages have no water. Some of our missionaries have driven to our house to do their laundry and get drinking water (a two-hour drive round trip). Much rain is needed to bring the water level up to normal in rivers and streams. Please do keep praying for an abundant rainfall for all of West Africa."

Richards noted that church attendance at Agnibilekrou has continued to increase but during the past few weeks several people have moved to other areas seeking work. African Christians are actively witnessing and teaching others in the area.

Bobby Poole talks with Glenda Humbles, student missionary to Brazil, during the FMF retreat at Camp Na-Co-Me.







Master's Men Don Wilbanks (left) and Carroll Poole (on scaffold) work on the Metcalf Memorial Dormitory at Jaboticabal, Brazil.

Eight adults who attended Bessie Richards' recent teacher-training program are now teaching children's Bible classes weekly in various sections of town.

Final preparations are being made for a city-wide evangelistic campaign in Agnibilekrou scheduled for the last week of July. Richards requested special prayer that the Lord would work in the hearts of workers and those attending.

## Metcalf Memorial Dorm is Well Under Way

*Nashville, Tenn.*—The Master's Men project of funding and building a new boys' dormitory at the youth camp in Jaboticabal, Brazil, has been more than launched and construction has been about two-thirds completed. Two men from Tennessee went to Brazil in April and did the block laying for the structure.

The new building has been designated "Metcalf Memorial Dormitory" by the sponsoring men in memory of missionary appointees John and Kay Metcalf who were killed in an auto accident in February.

## Franks Goes to Barbacena, Delays Furlough Time

*Brazil*—Dave and Pat Franks have accepted the responsibility of the Free Will Baptist Church in Barbacena, Brazil and have moved there from Belo Horizonte.

The Franks had originally scheduled furlough for August of this year but have decided to wait until

January to begin a short furlough. The work in Belo Horizonte has been temporarily closed or at least cut to a limited ministry.

## Banks Baptizes Two from Kita Hiroshima

*Japan*—Missionary Jerry Banks recently baptized two children from the Kita Hiroshima work and expressed praise that the father came to the service. The baptismal service was held in Airin Chapel church. Mrs. Hara, the children's mother, is a Christian but the father has not been pleased with his family's Christian experiences.

## Sweeney Gets Transfer to Field of France

*Nashville, Tenn.*—Miss Dawn Sweeney, missionary appointee to Ivory Coast, requested a transfer of appointment to France due to a change in ministry plans and the lack of a single missionary companion in the Ivory Coast.

Dawn had originally planned to work at the clinic at Doropo, Ivory Coast where Sherwood and Vada Lee and Clint and Lynette Morgan are laboring. She was to live and work with Elaine Allen, but Elaine was married recently. Although Dawn is a registered nurse, she became convinced she should not go into nursing on the field.

The France field council extended an invitation to Miss Sweeney and the Board of Foreign Missions approved her transfer during the April meeting in Nashville. Dawn plans to

leave for Albertville, France in August with a follow-up language program to be carried on in Paris. She plans to work with Charollette Tallent in Lorient, France.

## Goumere Church Launches Market-day Ministry

*Ivory Coast*—A market-day ministry has been started in Goumere, Ivory Coast by the Goumere Free Will Baptist Church according to missionary Ledgel Ferguson.

Since the marketplace is an important point in African life, the Goumere church has rented one of the one-room block buildings in the

*Continued on back →*

## Special Gifts to Missions

These individuals gave special gifts in March and April in memory of friends or loved ones:

Donor	In Memory of
Don and Billie Sexton Elizabethton, Tenn.	John and Kay Metcalf
Bellevue FWB Church Colquitt, Ga.	John and Kay Metcalf
Harmony FWB Woman's Auxiliary Fresno, Calif.	John and Kay Metcalf
Pine Level FWB Woman's Auxiliary Alma, Ga.	John and Kay Metcalf
Mrs. Owen Thomas Four Oaks, N.C.	Mrs. Lou Eck and Mrs. Belle S. Daughtry
Rev. and Mrs. Ted Wilbanks Springfield, Mo.	John and Kay Metcalf
Center District Woman's Auxiliary Clovis, Calif.	John and Kay Metcalf
First Woman's Auxiliary Blackwell, Okla.	John and Kay Metcalf
Pine Level Actionettes Alma, Ga.	John and Kay Metcalf
Mr. and Mrs. Loyce Terry Odessa, Tex.	Walter Sutton
Dr. and Mrs. Charles Hampton Nashville, Tenn.	John and Kay Metcalf
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Watson Nashville, Tenn.	John and Kay Metcalf
Florence D. Hicks Kingsport, Tenn.	William Gearhart
Wesconnett FWB Church Jacksonville, Fla.	John and Kay Metcalf
Newark Sunday School San Jose, Calif.	John and Kay Metcalf
Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Hodges Swainsboro, Ga.	John and Kay Metcalf

Clip and Mail Coupon

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_



→Continued from inside market area. "We have Christian literature to be read there in the room and other literature for sale," writes Ledgel. "The main thrust, though, is personal witnessing. Different people from the church witness and tell Bible stories. One of the ladies uses a flipchart out on the porch."

Every sixth day in Goumère is dedicated to the fetish and is consequently designated as a day of rest. Since no one goes to the fields that day they go to the market to buy and sell. Every Friday is also designated as market day.

Ledgel urged Christians to pray that many will be drawn by the Holy Spirit to receive the message of Christ.

### Hillsdale FMF Group Holds Annual Retreat

Moore, Okla.—Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College Foreign Missionary Fellowship group sponsored their annual retreat March 22-24 for FMF members and other interested students at Hillsdale. The group met at Dibble Camp Ground, Dibble, Okla. with a total of 50 people attending.

Those participating in this year's outing included foreign missionaries Elaine Allen and Darrel and Lila Nichols, Ivory Coast; Lynn Midgett, Spain; Stan and Brenda Bunch, Panama; and Tom McCullough, France.

Mrs. Jim (Shirley) Combs, former missionary to Brazil, is the sponsor of FMF. She is the missions teacher at Hillsdale.

Elaine Allen (center) participates in a skit with Shirley Combs (right) and a student from Hillsdale during the Hillsdale FMF retreat.



### Gillilands Leave Bouake Ministry for Furlough

Ivory Coast—Neil and Sheila Gilliland plan to begin a six-month furlough from Ivory Coast in July after a short term of service as dorm parents at the Ivory Coast Academy in Bouake.

"While other missionaries are trying to lead Africans to the way Home, we are trying to make a home for children of those missionaries," writes Neil. "We spend hours listening to the problems of these special kids who are neither totally American in culture nor totally African. I had the opportunity to lead one of our non-mission students to the Lord this past fall. And one of our boys, an MK from Upper Volta who had previously rejected Christ, turned his life over to the Lord. He is now a beautiful example of a servant."

### Call-a-thon Nets \$41,000 for New Missionaries

Nashville, Tenn.—Victory sounded in the office of foreign missions during the week of April 29, 1984, as the Call-a-thon total surpassed the \$40,000 goal by over \$1,000. Free Will Baptists in 22 states, Canada, and France responded to help new missionaries get to their fields of service.

According to Don Robirds, director of communications for foreign missions, a combination of 127 churches, individuals, and organizations participated in the foreign-missions-month effort of April.

Tennesseans came through with more than half of the total as 17 churches and a woman's auxiliary gave \$20,872.27 to the cause. The largest gift of \$10,078 came from the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church in Kingsport, Tenn., pastored by Reverend Winston Sweeney. This is the largest single gift ever given on Call-a-thon Sunday.

"Every gift was significant in the effort," Robirds stated. "It took the cooperative activity of all those participating to reach our goal. I praise God for those who made the effort to get involved in this outstanding display of concern for world outreach. This was our best Call-a-thon ever."

### Sturgill Hurts Back, Church People Respond

Brazil—Right in the midst of construction on the new church building in Campinas, Brazil, Jim Sturgill suddenly was unable to stand up. The problem—a herniated disk. It happened in mid-April and although no surgery has been recommended, the doctor says Jim can't travel or lift heavy things for a while.

According to Sturgill, when the people saw his incapacity, they responded with greater faithfulness in the work than ever before. And he concludes, "I hope not to have to take up the responsibilities they have now assumed."

### Annual French-Spanish Retreat Held in Spain

Spain—The annual French-Spanish retreat was held April 2-6 for Free Will Baptist missionaries serving the two countries. Missionaries met in

Continued→

### Financial Summary

Through April 30

#### Substance

Total contributions for April . . . . .	\$ 197,038.60
Total contributions through April . . . . .	774,742.84
Total disbursements through April . . . . .	746,026.88
Projected receipts through April . . . . .	904,896.00
Total 1984 Budget . . . . .	\$2,714,688.00

#### Shortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Bishop . . . . .	\$5,602.77	Payne . . . . .	\$ 3,041.59
Ellison . . . . .	50.15	Robinson . . . . .	3,777.96
Filkins . . . . .	639.79	Turnbough . . . . .	2,512.88
Hersey . . . . .	27.38	Webb . . . . .	8,293.73
Miley . . . . .	2,513.40	Willey . . . . .	391.28
Moser . . . . .	779.24		
Total . . . . .			\$27,630.17





MK Robert Poole, president of FMF at Free Will Baptist Bible College, presents a check for "Project India" to Rolla Smith, general director.

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Escorial, Spain, for special teaching sessions by video tape as well as for fellowship and worship periods.

Gary Wright, his wife Dorothy, and their two children from Fresno, Calif., were visiting during the retreat. Short-term missionaries Mark Riggs and Tim and Deanna Thompson taught VBS to the MKs during the morning sessions.

## Students Raise \$10,000 for FMF "Project India"

*Nashville, Tenn.*—Free Will Baptist Bible College prayer band groups, faculty members, and students raised or contributed \$10,103 to "Project India."

Foreign Missionary Fellowship's 1983-84 goal was to raise \$10,000 to provide Mopeds for Indian national pastors and for simple village church buildings.

Robert Poole, FMF president, presented a check to Rolla Smith for \$8,800 on May 9 during chapel

services. FWBBC President Dr. Charles Thigpen followed the presentation with a challenge to students, parents, and visitors present to complete the goal by contributing as they were leaving the auditorium. And they topped the goal!

## Pocket Testament Team Aids Jaboticabal Church

*Brazil*—A team of two pastors from the Pocket Testament League ministered in the Jaboticabal area of Brazil during the last week of Feb-

ruary showing films, preaching, distributing the Gospel of John and inviting many people to attend the Free Will Baptist church in that city.

According to missionary Jim Cowart, the names and addresses of 83 people who agreed to accept help with a basic Bible study were given to the church. Cowart urged people to pray that the enthusiasm among the church people might continue and that they might be able to follow up on these opportunities to meet spiritual needs.

## Las Tablas Group Seeks Land; Building Being Sold

*Panama*—Missionary Larry Inscoe reports from Las Tablas, Panama, that the rented building housing the church is soon to be sold. "It is necessary for us to take immediate action in raising the needed funds to buy land on which to build our own building," Larry explained.

Inscoe clarified the urgency of the fund-raising effort: "The congregation has started a land fund project, and at this time has \$1,000 in that account. We now need to raise an additional \$7,000."

## Special Note from MKs

*Missionary Kids at Free Will Baptist Bible College would like to express appreciation to all the churches which have invited them to speak during the past school year. They say "thank you" for the gracious treatment they received.*

*Churches interested in having a team of MKs or an individual MK during the next school year may contact R. Eugene Waddell, associate director of foreign missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202 or call 615/361-1010.*

## HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

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**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.

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