HEARTBEAT of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world



They Paved The Way

Missionary Who's Who by Don Robirds

Part One of a Series

To most people, PAUL and **NELLE WOOLSEY** probably seemed unlikely candidates for the mission field. As a matter of fact, Paul himself offered excuses for not going. He considered these to be valid: (1) He had a speech defect. (2) he had not been led or proven to be a sought-after. soulwinning evangelist. (3) he was already nearing middle age, (4) he had been plagued for 15 years with a stomach problem, and (5) he had no assurance that his wife had any impression about going to the mission field.

In spite of these "drawbacks," Paul ("A Modern Jonah"*) finally agreed to go to "Nineveh." He had been challenged to commitment through "stirring messages" by Reverend and Mrs. Thomas H. Willey, missionaries to Cuba. But he resisted for three days before finally settling it with the Lord.

The obstacles seemed to crumble, one-by-one, until they were at last discounted, leaving Paul and Nelle free to set out for India. Miss Laura Belle

FROM VICTORY UNTO VICTORY

Barnard, pioneer missionary to India, had made her impression on the Woolseys as she itinerated through East Tennessee a few years earlier.

On April 10, 1947, the Woolseys finally sailed from New York. They proceeded to the area of Kotagiri in South India, where Miss Barnard was laboring. While they stayed in the south only a few weeks. they began making two to four preaching tours a week and tried to help in the Sunday schools already established by Miss Barnard. Finally, they proceeded to North India and began work among the Santals in the Purnea District on the border of Nepal.

Their main reason for settling in the northernmost section of North India lay in the hope that they might be able to enter the unevangelized country of Nepal.

Although the doors were closed, the Woolseys were able to make multiple contacts with the Nepalese people as they traveled back and forth across the border.

Paul, who was allergic to milk and onions, suffered often from the effects of these while traveling in village evangelism. He also suffered a sunstroke which weakened him and affected his health. So, he and Nelle remained in India only one term in accord with their stated expectation. Still, they

were able to leave two mission stations, seven Indian workers, and several small Christian groups when they did depart for the homeland in 1952.

Paul returned to East Tennessee where he labored for 21 years in the ministry and in the public school system. In 1982 he entered the Durham Hensley Nursing Home, where he remains, due to alzheimers disease. Mrs. Woolsey lives near Greenville, Tenn.

The Woolsey's foster daughter, TRULA (Gunter), and her husband, DAN CRONK, joined the Woolseys in North India in 1948. The Cronks had planned to go to India before the Woolseys even thought of it. But they actually trailed the older couple and continued there for many years after the Woolseys left. Dan, who was among the first students at Free Will Baptist Bible College, was also the first FWBBC student to go to the mission field as a career missionary.

They opened a hostel (boarding house). Dan called this "God's instant preacher plan."

For a time, the Cronks worked with the Woolseys in a camping-type ministry. They visited villages and camped in the area for weeks, teaching Bible schools in the daytime and returning for a type of Bible-institute training in the evenings. Within the first two years the converts were brought together to form the annual conference. The Cronks continued in this ministry for their first term, which lasted six and one-half years.

After furlough, Dan and

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Paul and Nelle Woolsey





Dan and Trula Cronk







Volena Wilson

Trula went to Kishanganj and set out to reach the 500,000 totally unevangelized people in hundreds of surrounding villages.

Early in their ministry, they began a fruitful work with teenage boys as they opened a hostel (boarding house) to make a way for young village Christians to get a high school education. Dan called this "God's instant preacher plan." He taught the boys doctrine, theology, and leadership principles while they were learning the other aspects of education at the high school. Many of these young nationals became strong Christians and leaders.

Dan and Trula were very much involved in ministering to refugees who fled to India from Pakistan in 1971. They witnessed first-hand the results of some of the atrocities committed during eight months of murder, rape, looting, shooting, bayoneting, burning, etc.

In 1972, after laboring some 20 years in conjunction with Carlisle and Marie Hanna, our only remaining missionaries in India, the Cronks returned to the United States for furlough. Due to continuing health problems, they determined not to return to the field.

Dan assumed a position as professor of missions at Free Will Baptist Bible College when Miss Laura Belle Barnard retired in 1973. He taught until 1981 and has since labored part-time on behalf of the Board of Foreign Missions of which he is a member.

The Cronks currently reside in Nashville, Tenn.

MISS ZALENE LLOYD accompanied the Cronks to India in 1948. She spent three months in Kotagiri before going to Bangalore for Tamil language study.

He had been challenged to commitment through "stirring messages" by Reverend and Mrs. Thomas H. Willev.

Later, Zalene went to Kishangani in North India where the Cronks were ministering. Not knowing the Hindi language made her ministry difficult, but through the use of flannelgraph and object lessons she sought to tell women and children in her compound of God's love for them. After a few months, she resigned from the mission and joined another mission group under which she served in an Indian children's home in West Bengal.

She returned to the United States in 1953 and was not granted a return visa. Since then, she has had a fruitful ministry as the wife of pastorhome missionary Bob Breeden. They have worked in some of

the more remote areas of the States.

As a young business-college student from North Carolina. MISS VOLENA WILSON made a public commitment to follow the Lord "to the regions bevond." Assured of God's leading, she accompanied Miss Barnard to India when she returned from furlough in 1951. Following language study, Volena assisted Laura Belle in evangelistic and educational work. She conducted outside Sunday schools, assisted in vacation Bible schools, door-todoor visitation, weekly village evangelism, and managed the Westfield FWB elementary school. Later, she also managed the elementary school started at Gopalapuram.

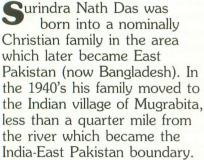
Miss Wilson took charge of the South India work when Miss Barnard left the field in 1960. She organized prayer cells, a monthly prayer night, a Bible Memory Club, etc. She was in charge when these churches were organized: Bethel FWB at Gopalapuram, Calvary FWB at Mettupalayam, and Grace FWB, now located in Coimbatore.

Miss Wilson left the work in India in 1966, but she has maintained contact with the church leaders over the years. She now resides in Ashville, N.C.

^{*}A book by the title of "A Modern Jonah" was written by Paul Woolsey and published by the Board of Foreign Missions.

A MAN CALLED DAVID...

by Marie Hanna



Surindra's two sisters were married into families who lived in the area which became East Pakistan. The parents and brothers continued to live in India. From the time India and Pakistan were divided in 1947 until the India-Pakistan War in 1965, the two sisters and their mother would meet at the river to wash clothes together.

One of Surindra's older brothers, having made a profession of faith in Christ, became a lay worker with our missionaries, the Paul Woolseys and the Daniel Cronks.

In the fall of 1952, Surindra came to the Free Will Baptist Hostel (boarding house) in Kishanganj to attend the



government high school. Dan and Trula Cronk were in charge of the hostel, and it became a part of our ministry in October of 1953 when we went to live in Kishanganj.

He took the Christian name of David, becoming David Surindra Das.

In February of the following year we went to the Annual Conference in Sonapurhat. Rev. Subodh Sahu was the speaker. During these meetings Surindra made a public profession of faith in Christ and was baptized. He took the Christian name of David becoming David Surindra Das, but he has only used the name David S. Das.

David was a good student, saying he wanted to become a doctor. He and his teachers expected him to receive first division in the matriculation examination (end of high school) which he took in March, 1955. In July, when the results list was printed, David was devastated to find his roll number missing (which meant he had not passed). Some weeks later, word came that a mistake had been made and he



David and Zaitun on wedding day.

had passed with high marks.

In the meantime, the Lord had been working with him. So, he came to us and said, "I wanted to be a doctor but God wants me to be a preacher."

David enrolled at Calcutta Bible College in August, 1955. The curriculum was taught in English rather than a native Indian language. He was just 16 years old, the youngest of the students, and far from his village home. Discouragement soon set in. His letter pleaded, "Please take me home. You can teach me."

By the time of the first possibility for a personal meeting, the Lord had helped him to adjust. He stayed and graduated from the two-year course. When he came home. he worked in our Free Will Baptist churches for a year. then attended Siliguri College for two years. While at Siliguri, he led a group of believers. Since we did not have personnel to maintain work in Siliguri, this work was handed over to another fundamental group. It has become an active church.

When formal studies were finished, David came to live and work in Sonapurhat. We had moved here while he was studying in Calcutta. Both David and Carlisle regularly visited the villages together and separately. In those days, during much of the year, many of our villages could be reached only on foot or by bicycle. David had a love for people. He still maintains this love and continues to give of himself as well as his goods in order to reach out to them. He and Carlisle have come back from the villages on numerous occasions at the point of heat exhaustion.

David wanted a wife—one who loved the Lord and who had enough education to help him in his pastoral work. Since marriages are arranged in India, David asked Carlisle to make a wedding arrangement for him. His father had no contacts with such a Christian girl. The final decision of acceptance or rejection of any arrangement was left to David.

Miss Janet Perry, a friend with Women's Union Missionary Society, helped Carlisle in the matter. She was guardian of a young girl named Zaitun Barkat.

As an infant, Zaitun was left in the jungle to perish. She was a twin, and superstition held that twins were bad luck and a curse.

A sweeper lady found the girl and took her to the missionaries of Hephzibah Mission in Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh. Zaitun lived in their orphanage until she was about 12 years old. Then, the girls of that home were taken by the Women's Union Missionary Society.

Zaitun attended their girls' school in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh and Wanamaker High School in Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh. Later, she graduated from Kalvari Bible School in Allahabad and a teacher's training course in Pathankot, Puniab.

Janet and Carlisle arranged a wedding between David and Zaitun. They were married in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh on October 25, 1962. Adjustments were great for Zaitun. Coming to a village area after having lived in urban areas for many years was not easy. As we traveled home from the wedding, I tried, in a small way, to prepare her for the situation which she was entering. Her response was, "I'll be happy wherever David is."

David has a love for people and gives himself and his goods to reach out to them.

In spite of their different backgrounds—different mother tongue, different family outlooks, etc.—their family became a family of love. The Lord blessed their home with six children. Their first child died at birth on October 24, 1965.

David, along with John Mukul Mondal, was ordained to the gospel ministry on July 1, 1963, the first to be ordained in our work here.

David and his family lived and worked in the unreached areas of Powakali, Purnea District, Bilhar and Karandighi, West Bengal during 1969 and 1970. They returned to Sonapurhat for a short time, then they moved to Islampur in 1971.

Islampur had become a subdivisional headquarters town. And although several previous efforts to start a church there had been unsuccessful, God blessed David's ministry and today a growing church exists.

It has not been a smooth, easy road for David. Before his wedding, a relative set a trap for him that would have destroyed his name and testimony. For a time, he and Zaitun had their eyes on material things. Times of discouragement came.

During the early morning hours of January 23, 1972, burglars broke into their house and severely beat David.

Neither he nor Zaitun were willing to spend another night there until they gained the victory through prayer. They did remain. And a couple of years later, they were robbed again; consequently, each time they hear of robberies, they are visibly fearful. Still, they continue to live in the same house.

Physically, David is not strong. But in spite of his weaknesses and those of Zaitun, the Lord has greatly used them to win people to Christ. They need the prayers of Christians so they may endure the hardness of these days and be fruitful laborers for the Lord.

Marie Hanna and her husband, Carlisle, are the only Free Will Baptist missionaries serving in India today.

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of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

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by Siradelia Martinez

was invited to speak at the Annual Free Will Baptist Youth Convention of Cuba in July of 1984.

After 24 years without visiting my homeland, it was a privilege to return. Leaders of our church met me in Havana. Immediately we got into a car and drove 50 kilometers to a very picturesque town where we have a good, dynamic church. Ten kilometers from that town we have another church. My husband and I had founded both of these churches in 1951-52.

The night after my arrival, I had the joy of speaking in one of these churches. I was surprised to see the number of members and friends who met

to enthusiastically worship the Lord. I commend them for their efforts to win souls for Christ and to repair the old church building.

Early in the morning on July 22 we started for the Conference Center in Pinar del Rio. It was formerly the seminary. I was accompanied by the president of the church association, Mr. Gilberto Diaz, and Rev. Vidal Hernandez.

When we arrived, everything was ready to start the youth conference. During the day we had 60 delegates. At night the attendance increased to approximately 100 people.

Precious youth between the ages of 16 and 23 came. Many of these young people have

special gifts in the area of music. Above all, we could see their desire to learn more about the Word of God. Even though they lacked adequate food, sleeping quarters, and other necessities, one could sense their happiness. They openly expressed and demonstrated genuine gratitude to God for His blessings and assistance in overcoming difficulties.

During the convention, I spoke to the youth three times. They not only listened with interest, but many of them took notes. As the convention drew to a close, an appeal was made for them to commit themselves to serve the Lord. A dozen young people came forward. Today, some of these are in charge of churches. Others are preparing themselves through theological studies so they can assume leadership roles.

As the convention drew to a close, an appeal was made for them to commit themselves to serve the Lord. A dozen young people came forward.

Two young men have received scholarships and are studying at the American Baptist Convention Seminary in Oriente.

Following the convention, I visited five different churches in various parts of the country. I noted tremendous growth in them. Hundreds of people on the island were following the Lord. They were living their lives according to the Scriptures, maintaining the doctrine, and lifting high the

Few pastors are available today, so those who serve are responsible for three or four churches at the same time. Also, laymen are in charge of some churches. The Lord is richly blessing these and the work they are performing.

Mr. Diaz, president of the convention, is a layman. After finishing his daily work, he gives of his free time to handle the responsibilities of the Lord's work. He is in very poor health, yet, he faithfully labors for the Lord daily.

Prior to my departure, Gilberto said to me, "Siradelia, let the leaders of the Free Will Baptist church in the USA know that we still have Christians in Cuba who see the Lord in nature, in the sun, the moon, and the stars. They will never sell their birthright to any materialistic philosophy and will always defend the doctrine that the Free Will Baptist leaders taught them."

Presently, the Cuban
Association has two very
important needs—
reconstruction of the old
chapels and a vehicle for the
president of the association.
The Conference Center chapel
especially needs reconstruction.

They asked me to request Free Will Baptists in the States to please back them morally, spiritually and financially.

They are putting forth great efforts for evangelism and growth. The first Sunday of each month in 1984 was set aside for prayer and fasting. And the entire year was designated "The Year of Evangelism."

Providing for Growth

by Don Robirds

"Pop" Willey knew the value of training nationals. And he had the wisdom to launch a training program early in his ministry. But it wasn't easy nor inexpensive. It cost a lot in terms of money and sacrifice to start a Bible institute program even in those early days in Cuba.

Because Free Will Baptists rallied to the cause, the Cedars of Lebanon Bible Institute was established near Pinar del Rio. And "Pop" had the ability to lead men while allowing them to utilize their own abilities and gifts. That gave those young men and women the incentive they needed to really put themselves into the work.

During the next five years dynamic training programs will come to life.

Over the years God blessed those efforts and many young, well-trained preachers and teachers spread out across the island. Churches were established and began to flourish. Then, the revolution hit in 1959 and everyone became excited over the great possibilities of the new "freedom." Soon it became evident that Castro's government was communist



Growth Growth

and missionaries and national pastors were under pressure to leave.

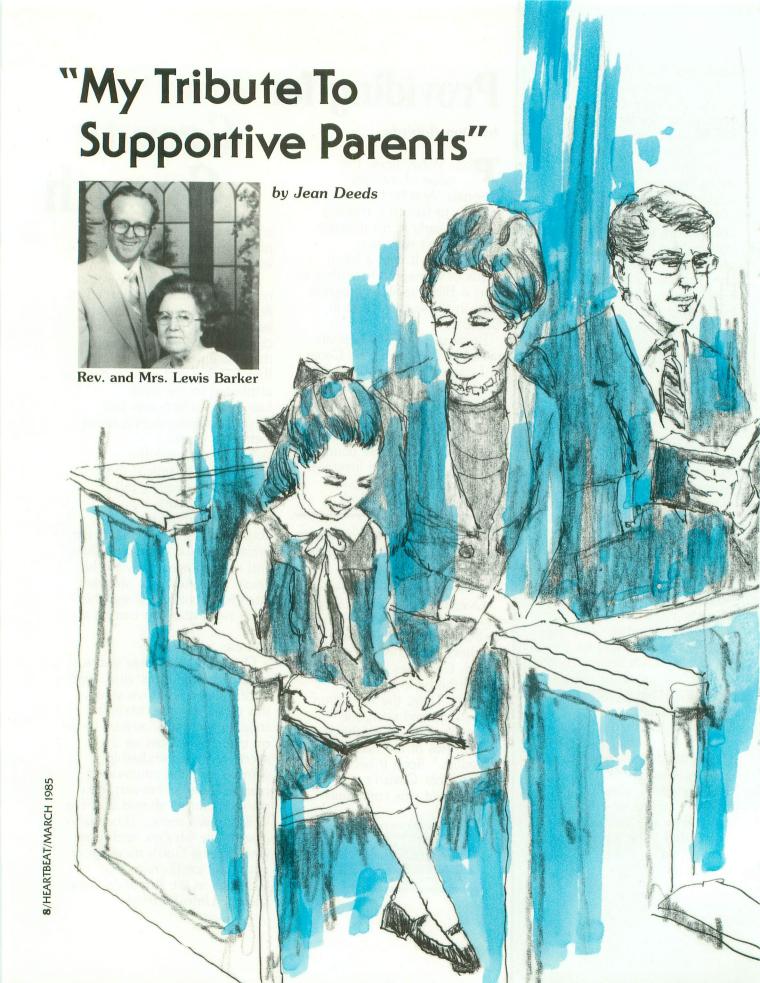
The Willeys left and several national pastors were forced to flee for their lives. During the last 25 years, the church has continued to grow in spite of the difficulties. And much of that stability and growth can be attributed to the solid foundation which was laid through training during those formative years.

Today, we have the opportunity to repeat this story. God is calling out numbers of young men and women in almost every country. Free Will Baptists can praise God for His high calling, and we can again rally to this cause. The *Advance* program intends to boldly address this great need and you can be a part.

you can be a part.

Over the next three years, your commitment is vital! And during these next five years, this effort will see dynamic training programs coming to life on every field. Just as the seeds of true discipleship planted in Cuba continue to reap a bountiful harvest, new planting can be shared by Free Will Baptists today. Those who give, those who go, and those who receive God's message of grace will jointly reap the blessings as we Advance—from Victory Unto Victory!

Siradelia Martinez is the wife of Melitino Martinez who was featured in the film, "Letter to Melitino"



Our decision to go to the mission field involved Dad and Mom. And while they would have preferred a nearby ministry for us, they laid aside their preferences and were helpful from the beginning.

On December 15, 1984, they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, and I would like to pay tribute to them. Earnie, the children, and I are grateful for what they have done, and also for what we hold to be an exemplary attitude on their part.

In the summer of 1956, Earnie was sharing with his future in-laws our plans to marry. Sure, it was fine. They were in agreement. Then he added, "I think you should know that I feel God is calling me to the foreign mission field. I may be going abroad in the future. Do you have any objections to your daughter's accompanying me?"

Now Dad dropped his head to think for a minute. His answer had a certain decisiveness in it. "I could not object," he began, "because I dedicated her to the Lord on the day she was born."

He then told Earnie how he had feared this tiny baby girl, born deep in the country in Arkansas, might die. No doctor was on hand. To pray seemed the only course to take, so he said, "Lord, if You will let her live, I will give her back to You for all the days of her life." This acknowledgment to Earnie was the first I knew of his promise to the Lord.

After graduation from Free Will Baptist Bible College, we spent four years in the pastorate in Arkansas.

In 1962, we began deputation as missionary appointees to Brazil. At that time, no salary was paid to beginning itinerants. We received mileage and a \$5 honorarium for each service we conducted. By then we had two children, and the family traveled together. We visited different churches almost every night of the week for most of a year. Dad and Mom's parsonage home became ours also for intervals of rest, for packing, and for nursing sick children.

The brakes on our old, well-worn Buick kept giving us trouble. Dad decided it was dangerous for us. He insisted we take his car, knowing that the many miles of an itinerary would more than likely wear it out. They did.

Dad insisted we take his car, knowing that an itinerary would more than likely wear it out.

Then, finally we were off to Brazil, taking with us their two oldest grandchildren. I wrote exciting letters to them about our strange and sometimes amusing experiences, and especially about the children and their frustrations in adjusting to the new environment. We missed our parents and our other relatives and friends, but homesickness was not the problem I had expected.

Back home it was not so! But Dad and Mom suffered in silence. Four years seemed such a long time! Would the grandchildren even remember them? On a later occasion Mom shared, "Separation is worse for those who stay home. You are busy and intrigued with your new work and life. Here, everything is the same, except you are gone."

The time for our first furlough came. A welcoming party at the Little Rock airport held the banner, smiling excitedly until the last passengers had descended the steps. No missionaries were among them. The color left Mom's face. Plane trouble had made us nine hours late, and we had not been able to get a message through. Shortly after our arrival, Mom became ill. The doctors attributed it to "strain and exhaustion." No. it is not easy for those who stay.

Over the years, Dad and Mom have consistently supported through prayer and finances the ministry God has given us. Even after retirement from the pastorate, their monthly contribution to our account has not once failed.

While on furlough in 1983, I was helping Dad fill out a questionnaire about his ministry in the Free Will Baptist denomination. We began to reminisce. I commented on that informal baby dedication so many years ago and how his sharing it with Earnie and me had been an inspiration.

He smiled and answered, "I didn't know anything about mission work back then. If I had, I might not have done it." However, I'm certain he would have, for he and Mom have a 50-year record of giving and giving up for the cause of Christ. I'm proud they are my parents!

Jean Deeds is the wife of veteran missionary Earnie Deeds of Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil.





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gift could greatly relieve this b	urden!					
Yes, I want to relieve the burden of the medical ministry. Over the next six months I want to give monthly (check one): () \$20 () \$50 () \$100 () \$10 () \$						
Enclosed is my check for \$ toward the () generator () medicines and supplies.						
() generator () ii	redictines and supplies.					
Name	Section dances					
Address	City					
StateZip_	Church					
I will send this (Check one)	() through the church () direct.					

Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202

HEARTLINE

You Can Have a Successful Missionary Conference

Part One

A good missionary conference does not just happen. Success comes as a result of planning, hard work and, most importantly, the blessing of God.

I'd like to make some suggestions to help you have a better conference.

Start planning early.

Decide how long your conference should be: a full week, one half of the week or a weekend.

Many churches and missionaries prefer a conference which features one missionary. If the missionary can share in three or four services, the people get to know him and his work much better. Quite often, two, three or more churches will have a joint conference and rotate the speakers from one church to another.

It is important to contact your missions department several months in advance. It is best to select the dates and, if possible, the speakers nine to twelve months ahead of time. Use a missionary from your area if possible.

Establish your objectives.

Objectives or goals should be specific, attainable and measurable. They can deal with such matters as missionary education and interest, support, and commitment to service. Here are some examples of specific goals: Each Sunday school class might determine to call the name of a specific missionary in prayer every Sunday for the next year. Ten or more families might each adopt a missionary family and send greeting cards on birthdays, holidays, etc. Every family in the church could commit themselves to support a missionary for the next year. Seek to increase your church's support during the next year by at least 15 percent. Ten people could be enlisted in an agreement to pray daily for God to call a missionary from your church.

Involve as many of your people as possible.

Like all other church programs, the success of your conference will be in direct proportion



R. Eugene Waddell Associate Director

to the interest and efforts of the congregation. Perhaps you wonder, "How can I get them involved?" One approach to this question would be to list everything you can possibly think of which could contribute to the conference. For example, your people need to be praying. The missionaries will need lodging and meals while they're with you. The conference needs publicity. It is good to decorate the church building with a missions motif. Someone needs to prepare the musical program for each service. Involve the different age groups: the young people, the woman's auxiliary, the Master's Men, and the senior saints. Arrange displays of curios and literature.

Spiritually-motivated individual involvement is extremely important in order to have a successful conference.

Individuals or committees should be appointed to take care of all these details. This will be a great relief to the pastor whose schedule is already over-crowded. It will also generate enthusiasm in the congregation. I have found that gathering a large number of people to help plan and promote a meeting will cause them to pray, attend, and bring others with them.

Spiritually-motivated individual involvement is extremely important in order to have a successful conference. Rev. Roger Russell described his approach: "There has never been a conference held in our church which seemed to result in greater blessing. About two months ago, I went through the Foreign Missions Directory, wrote the name of each missionary family on separate pieces of paper, and gave them out to individual members at prayer service. Each one was to make that missionary his in prayer. I attribute the enthusiasm of the conference to this."

To be continued in the May issue.

Financial Summary Through January 31 Substance

Contributions for January Disbursements for January Projected receipts through January Total 1985 Budget	
Contributions for December	
Total 1984 Budget	

All of the fo	ollowing accounts are in	n the deficit:	
Combs	\$5,111.05	McCullough \$	248.24
Dickens	3,638.09	Miley	4,780.57
Hersey	251.93	Owen	384.33
Inscoe	831.50	Robinson	2,482.30
Lee	7,440.29	Teague	4,330.73
	1,009.55	General Fund	
Total		\$	58,117.71

Special Gifts

These individuals gave special gifts in October, December and January in memory of friends or loved

In Memory of
Minnie Henley
Minnie Henley
Williard Stanley
John S. Craft
Hollis Lucious
Howard Jones
Don Stevens
Marvin Gill and Mrs. Alma Bolin
Taft Dunnaway
John L. Welch
William McPherson
Barbara Hart Whitman
Rory Griffin
Ora Haymaker
and Mail Coupon

Memorial Gift to Foreign Missions

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Please send men	norial/honorary card to:		15
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City	State	Zip	100

news update | | | | | | | |



Ken Bailey, center, teaches an English Bible class at the Iriso FWB Church in the Tokyo area of Japan.

Baileys Teach at Iriso, Continue Language Study

Japan-Although Ken and Judy Bailey continue their language study in Tokyo, they have assumed some responsibilities at the Iriso Free Will Baptist Church while Fred and Evelyn Hersey are on furlough.

According to the Baileys, nine men and women are attending their English Bible classes on Sunday evenings. Only one Christian is among the group. Ken and Judy requested special prayer that God would work in the hearts of the unsaved as they present the gospel message.

The Baileys moved into another house recently and expressed praise that "God has led us to this neighborhood." A young couple with no children has opened their home and hearts to the Baileys. "Our Japanese language school teachers have told us it is unusual for the Japanese to take such a close interest in foreigners," write the Baileys. "Please pray that their hearts will be open to His message!"

Ken and Judy began their second year of language study in January.

Callaway Says Work on Building Complete

Spain—According to a recent report from missionary Ron Callaway in Mostoles, Spain, work on the meeting hall of the church has been completed in accord with the requirements of the city. "Although there are other things that must be done, we believe that we can postpone these for a few months," writes

Linda Callaway started a semi-

monthly ladies' Bible class in November. They are studying the Gospel of John. A regular Saturday evening youth meeting began in

The Callaways requested special prayer for these new efforts.

Paris Doors Close for Crawford Language Study

France—Since the language school at Albertville, France, doesn't offer a second year of French, missionary Cathy Crawford was scheduled to move to Paris to continue her language study. Following six days of searching and praying for an apartment, Crawford determined that God had "closed the doors."

Cathy was returning to Nantes with missionary Pansy Murray when Pansy decided to telephone her husband, John. "Before she could tell him where we were and why," Cathy stated, "he explained the missionaries had decided that day I should return to Nantes and study."

The following day, Crawford located an apartment in Nantes. This gave her added assurance that God had changed her plans.

Eight People Baptized at Sonapurhat in December

India-Eight people were baptized in Sonapurhat, North India, on December 31, according to missionary Carlisle Hanna. "One school headmaster was baptized along with seven others," writes Carlisle. "He is facing much opposition and pressure as the only believer in his family. Do remember to pray for him."

Hanna declared that a number of people, including another school teacher, had been saved during the past year. These are also under pressure now from their families and from the communities where they live.

Mark Hanna, youngest son of Carlisle and Marie, visited India during December and part of January. He and a friend shared in a retreat for pastors in that area and Mark helped again in another special retreat between Christmas and the new year.

Betania Sets Another Record, Reaches Goal

Panama-"On December 23 we had our greatest day attendance-wise in the history of our church," writes Steve Lytle regarding the Betania church in Panama. A total of 107 people were present for Sunday school to see a dramatized Christmas message as people portrayed clowns, dolls, storybook characters,

On that Sunday night 116 people attended the children's program and saw "The Other Wise Man," as portrayed by the young people of the

Lytle noted that the church had reached its building-fund goal of \$5.000 for 1984. On December 30 the treasurer reported a total of \$5,133 given to the fund during the year.

In mid-December the church was challenged through a missionary conference as Dave Franks, missionary to Brazil, showed his slides and preached on December 15 and

Bryans Victimized by Thieves in Abidjan

Ivory Coast-Robert and Judy Bryan, who are working with the Evangelical Publishing Center in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, were victims of thieves on Sunday, January 20 of this year.

According to reports, burglars broke into the Bryans' apartment and stole \$130, a cassette recorder, etc., and then they stole two tires and wheels from their car.

Robert stated that the mission property where they are living has been constantly plagued with theft. Plans called for installation of bars on their windows and construction of a wall around the mission property.

Ribeirao Preto Calls **Brazilian Pastor**

Brazil-Antonio da Silva was elected pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, on December 8. He was officially installed during the watch night service at the church on December 31.

Antonio is the first full-time Brazilian pastor of the church and is the first graduate of the four-year seminary-Bible institute program of the church.

Although Silva has been officially installed, he was not expected to be ordained until February 2 when the association of churches was to meet in Ribeirao.

Missionary Bobby Poole, founder

of the church, was elected vicepresident of the church and will continue to work with the different ministries of the congregation. Antonio was not expected to assume full responsibilities of the work for approximately two months due to his current employment.

Leadership Retreat Held for Panamanian Leaders

Panama—Forty pastors, lay preachers, deacons, and other church leaders met for a two-day leadership retreat on December 28-29 at the Gospel Missionary Union campgrounds in Panama.

According to missionary Steve Lytle, Tom Willey Jr. was on hand to preach, answer questions, counsel leaders, etc. Willey, who served as a missionary in Panama for 15 years. now serves with World Relief and works with the Hispanic Association of Free Will Baptists in Florida.

A film was shown entitled, "The Role of the Pastor," featuring Dr. Howard Hendricks of Dallas Theological Seminary.

Lytle noted, "The leaders are already asking when the next retreat will be held."

Nine Saved in Special Ribeirao Preto Meeting

Brazil—A special evangelistic meeting was held December 14-16 in the First Free Will Baptist Church in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, Nine first-time decisions for Christ were recorded along with several rededications during the meeting.

Pastor Wadislau Gomes of Sao Carlos served as the evangelist for the week. According to a report from missionary Geneva Poole, the church was full to overflowing every night in spite of heavy rains.

Gibbs Baptizes Two in Ocean Near St. Nazaire

France-Jerry Gibbs baptized two people on October 28, 1984, at an ocean-front service near St. Nazaire. France, Madame Rosa Pallec and Claude Cezar were converted in a recent evangelistic campaign.

According to a report from Overseas Secretary Jimmy Aldridge, who was on hand for the services, these new converts had already been instrumental in bringing two others to the Lord.



Missionary Jerry Gibbs prepares to baptize Madame Rosa Pallec during a special service at the ocean near St. Nazaire, France.

Radio Listener Responds from Neighboring Town

Brazil-A radio listener from a nearby town recently wrote to missionary Earnie Deeds in Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil, expressing his interest in learning more of the Bible's message. Since that time, he has completed a correspondence course using the Gospel of John and has requested a visit from Earnie.

"Please pray for 21-year-old Dedi. that he might understand the truth and be saved," writes Deeds.

Earnie and Jean have expressed concern that a small exodus from their city has taken two families including six people who had made professions of faith during the past year.

Work on the church building in Lafaiete has continued and completion of the baptistry was the latest

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

France-Missionary John Murray reported his car stolen on January 8 while in Paris, France, on business for the mission. At last report it had not been located.

Panama-Missionary Larry Inscoe reports from Panama: "There seems to be an effort on the part of the Roman Catholic Church to stop our work and ruin our good reputation here in Las Tablas. The one thing that has seemed to cause the greatest anger has been tract distribution by our youth. The tract in question is 'Why Roman Catholics Should

Read the Bible.' It had been approved by the Council of Roman Catholic Bishops in the States."

France-Missionary Patty McCullough underwent surgery on January 9 for an ovarian cyst. Surgery was performed in a Paris hospital and tests showed all to be benian. Patty was released from the hospital on January 15 and is reported to be recouperating well.



Robert and Pam West

Nashville, Tenn.-Robert and Pam West, associate missionary appointees to Ivory Coast, West Africa, are tentatively scheduled to depart around April 7 for France to begin their study of the French language. They are to be commissioned in Smithfield, N.C., on March 3.

Spain—"In the last couple of months, six people have been saved," writes HEARTE Lonnie Sparks from Alcala de Henares, Spain. "One young man, Jose Luis Soria, announced his call EARTE to preach on December 2. Paul Continued on page 14→ •

news update | | | | | | | |



Dr. Bernardino Jaen shares devotional thoughts during the Panamanian Association meeting held at the Betania church in Panama City.

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(Sparks' son) was responsible for his salvation. He is the first person saved in the church neighborhood. Two others from the neighborhood are Christians now."

Effingham, S.C.—Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hicks, parents of missionary Geneva Poole in Brazil, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on January 5. The reception was held in the fellowship hall of the Lebanon Free Will Baptist Church in Effingham, S.C.

Ivory Coast—"On Christmas eve our young people's group marched through the village singing," write the Clint Morgans from Doropo, Ivory Coast. "Then they put on a play in the church yard for everyone. After that came a gospel message. Christmas morning the church was packed."

Nashville, Tenn.—Jerry and Carol Pinkerton are scheduled to arrive this month to begin a short furlough from Ivory Coast.

Knoxville, Tenn.—Jim Cowart left on January 15 for Brazil while his family remained in the United States so their daughter, Camila, could have her final medical checkup following her October 26 surgery. The family was to have departed about the end of January but Camila contracted an ear infection, so departure was delayed.

Ivory Coast—Missionary Eddie Payne has been suffering with pain in his hip and left leg, probably due to a back problem. He was bedfast for more than a week recently. Christians have been urged to pray for him.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Danny Scott, husband of MK LaDonna (Deeds) Scott, spent several days near the end of January in St. Anthony's Hospital in Oklahoma City. Scott was hospitalized when doctors suspected a brain tumor. Although none was found, doctors indicated a blood clot on the brain had caused the problem. Latest reports show this to be cleared up and Danny is at home. He is the son-in-law of Earnie and Jean Deeds in Brazil

Brazil—Missionary Tom Hughes reported having baptized seven people in November. Then he added, "After the service that night, one young man who was baptized led a friend to the Lord."

Edinburg, Tex.—Stan and Brenda Bunch write from Spanish language school in Edinburg, Tex.: "God is blessing us in many ways. The children are adjusting well. The playground is right out our back door and there are 30 or 40 MK's to play with. Pray for us to have patience and determination in learning Spanish."

India—Daniel Lincoln, son of the late Pastor Dorairaj, is presently working with the World Cassette Outreach Ministry of India. He and three other friends were making plans to begin the Tamil Bible Institute in February.

France—The Christmas banquet at the Nantes FWB Church in France

was held on December 16 with approximately 75 people attending. Six countries were represented at the banquet. Jimmy Aldridge, overseas secretary, was on hand and showed the film "Defying the Gods."

India—Twenty-five converts were baptized recently at Bethel FWB Church in Gopalapuram, South India. Reports indicate several others are being prepared for baptism. Pastor of the church is David Rajkumar.

Ivory Coast—Sherwood Lee writes from Doropo, "Being on call for four years, day and night, drains one physically, emotionally, and sometimes mentally." Christians have been urged to pray for Sherwood's strength as he awaits the arrival of other medical personnel.

Panamanian Association Meets at Betania

Panama—The Panamanian Association of Free Will Baptists met January 8-9 at the Betania Free Will Baptist Church in Panama City.

Approximately 150 people attended the meeting and a new executive committee was elected. Martin Plicet, from Agua Buena, was elected president. Manuel Montenegro from the new work in San Miguelito is vice-president. Secretary is laura Bell from the First FWB Church in Panama City, and Norris Cano, from Betania, is the new treasurer. Executive secretary for the group is Daniel Dorati, also from the Panama City church.

According to Steve Lytle, this is the first year that members of mission churches have been allowed to serve on the board.

Payne Sees Work Expand, New Villages Open

Ivory Coast—According to a January report from missionary Sandra Payne, the work in and around Bouna, Ivory Coast, is continuing to expand: "There is so much work to be done and we are thrilled," says Sandra, "for we can remember when there was practically no interest in the gospel."

Mrs. Payne reported, "One of the young men in the Bouna church asked Eddie (Payne) and Koffi David to go to a bush village with him because a man out there had prayed

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and wanted to burn his fetishes." Although they were unable to reach the village by car, they did find out that the people in that village had heard the gospel from Christians of Panzarani. They had traveled 25 kilometers across country to take them the message.

People in a village about 10 kilometers south of Panzarani say they have several interested people in their village and they want to have their own services. They have already started building a brush arbor. A number from this village have been attending services at Panzarani.

Midgett Injured in Snow Outing Accident

Spain—Miss Lynn Midgett, missionary to Spain, suffered a spinal injury sometime in late January. The injury was sustained during a snow-sledding accident while on an outing with a group from the church.

Reports from missionary Ron Callaway indicated two vertebrae near the top of the spine were pushed together, causing pain and restriction of blood flow.

In addition to the injury to the upper part of the spine, some damage was done to the lower part of Lynn's back, where she has a natural curvature.

Doctors recommended 20 treatments from a physical therapist.

Over \$12,500 Given in Building Fund Efforts

Brazil—Over \$12,567 was given on December 23, by people of the First FWB Church of Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, toward their building fund.



These two couples of the Uberlandia FWB Church in Brazil were the first to be married in the church: (left) Geter de Faria and Vanessa Ferreira and (right) Dr. Augusto Fijumiro and Gelma de Faria.

According to missionary Bobby Poole, two pieces of jewelry, valued at approximately \$670, were also given.

The goal for the fund was U\$\$25,000 or 50 million cruzeiros (Brazilian currency). The Pooles expressed optimism that they might receive the rest of the \$25,000 by December 31. The final tally had not been received at press time.

Uberlandia FWB Church Has First Weddings

Brazil—The Free Will Baptist church in Uberlandia, Brazil, had its first two wedding ceremonies recently, according to missionary Tom Hughes.

The first wedding on November 17, 1984, joined Geter de Faria and Miss Vanessa Ferreira. The second

wedding on January 26, 1985, united Miss Gelma de Faria and Dr. Augusto Fijumiro. Tom performed the religious ceremony for both couples.

Gelma is the first convert in the Uberlandia work and Geter, a lay preacher in the church, is her brother. Vanessa is the sister of Luiz Ferreira, the second convert in the work and the prospective pastor of the church. Dr. Augusto graduated from medical school in July of last year. He rededicated his life to Christ in the church while a student.

Hughes noted that two more couples in the church are planning to be married sometime in 1985.

Student from Brazil Gets Press Scholarship

Nashville, Tenn.—Maurilio Amorim Jr., a Brazilian who is attending Free Will Baptist Bible College, was awarded a journalism scholarship in December by the Free Will Baptist Press Association. The \$250 award was given in light of Amorim's achievement and interests in the areas of English and journalism.

Maurilio, a product of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, was cited for his dedication and commitment to the Lord. Due to his status as a foreign student, he is unable to seek employment in the United States. The economic crisis in Brazil has made it difficult for his parents to provide the funds needed to keep him in school. The scholarship will offer some small assistance.

Mr. Bert Tippett, left, journalism teacher at Free Will Baptist Bible College, presents a journalism scholarship check to Maurilio Amorim on behalf of the FWB Press Association. Maurilio is a Brazilian from Ribeirao Preto where Bobby and Geneva Poole labor.





of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Post Office Box 1088 Nashville, Tennessee 37202

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Please clip and send this label with all correspondence.

APRIL 28, 1985

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