

# HEARTBEAT

MAY 1985

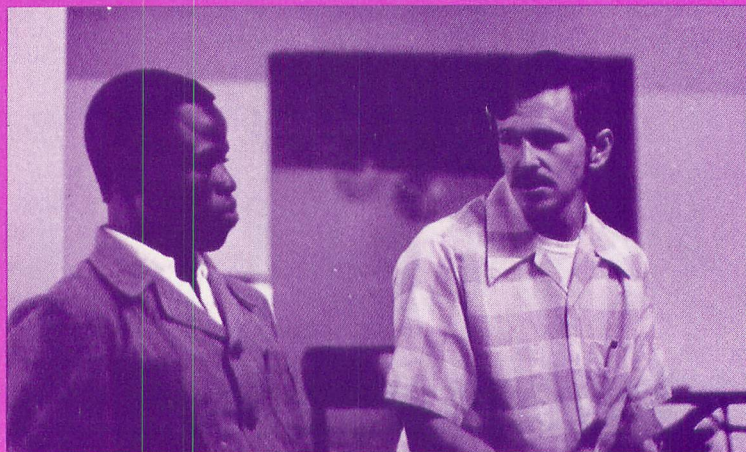
of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world



## LEADING BY EXAMPLE





# LEADING BY EXAMPLE

*by Jimmy Aldridge*



**50** FIFTY GOLDEN YEARS OF  
**ADVANCE**  
FROM VICTORY UNTO VICTORY



**G**od uses men and women in His plan of redemption. Not only does He call some of us to go as missionaries from the sending churches of America, He also calls men and women to places of leadership in our emerging churches overseas.

One of those leaders is Pastor Anany Victor, presently pastor of the Bondoukou Free Will Baptist Church. As he has learned the ways and character of God, he has influenced our entire Ivory Coast church by his example.

Victor prayed for courage in 1967 as he was being threatened by a political leader. A few months ago I watched that same politician approach Victor at an open grave to thank him for the message he had just preached. Victor had suffered for Christ with courage and joy and won the respect of his persecutor.

---

***Victor's love for God, for the church, for sinners, and for soul winning is being reproduced in the lives of many people.***

---

When Pastor Jean-Baptiste died of kidney disease, the entire church family—Koulango, Lobi, Mossi, etc.—contributed financially to help with funeral expenses and to help care for the widow and her son. Victor and his wife, Josephine, took her into their home.

The Ivorian believers have a great sense of oneness. When one of the group falls into sin, all of them suffer. The Christians at Bondoukou and Kpanan tried for almost two years to get Elie to repent of

his sins. He resisted. They kept on praying and encouraging him, demonstrating great love, compassion, and patience in dealing with him. After spending all night in prayer with the conviction that God was working in Elie's heart, one of the Christian men went to him again and told of his love and concern. Elie repented. The man who showed such concern was Victor.

Another man persisted in his sin, finally defying his brothers who were trying to win him back. A church meeting was called. The leader tried to lead the erring one back to repentance. All the group counseled him. He continued in his arrogance. Finally, the leader said with great sorrow, "We have done all we can. In light of his defiance of God and open sin, I feel he must be put out of the church." Twenty-six members stood to their feet, one by one, and expressed their agreement. The leader in that meeting was Victor.

Love for all the other churches is expressed tangibly. The group at Bondoukou, larger than the village churches, refuses to openly count the number of people present in services so they will not discourage the smaller, struggling groups. Competition is discouraged among the groups so there will be no division among them.

The churches of Taoudi and Kpanan developed a wrong spirit between them. They wanted it settled. Victor was requested to come and help them settle it.

One of the first old ladies to be saved at Kouafo was invited by Victor and Josephine to spend some time with them following her conversion. As

she was going back to the village, carrying the chicken that Josephine had given her, she exclaimed, "How they love one another!" She had just seen Christian love expressed in a family for the first time in her life.

Yes, Victor's love for God, for the church, for sinners, and for soul winning, etc. is being reproduced in the lives of many people as he leads them in the way of God.

---

***As he has learned the ways and character of God, he has influenced our entire Ivory Coast church.***

---

What greater evidence could be given to prove the influence of God's character in the lives of believers? Such an example calls for greater commitment and involvement by Christians everywhere! More Victors can and will be reached as Christians band together in prayer, praise, and giving out of grateful hearts for what God has done.

---

Jimmy Aldridge is a veteran missionary to the Ivory Coast. He currently is serving as Overseas Secretary and acting as the Advance Coordinator for the 50-year celebration of foreign missions.

## HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Vol. 25, No. 4

May 1985

**Editor: Don Robirds**  
**Assistant: Ruthann Hall**  
**Artist: Jim Johnson**

*Heartbeat* (USPS 239-202) is published monthly except bimonthly in January-February and July-August by the Board of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, 1134 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville, Tenn. 37217. Second-class postage paid at Nashville, Tenn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Heartbeat*, Box 1088, Nashville, Tenn. 37202.



# They Paved The Way

*Missionary Who's Who*  
by Don Robirds

Part Two of a Series

---

*Although a current staff of 104 missionaries (60 percent of all appointed in our 50-year history) is enjoying a fruitful ministry, many others in the past have made significant contributions to the ministries abroad.*

*In this series, the Heartbeat staff is selecting and recognizing some of those who made such contributions. This is an attempt to acquaint Free Will Baptists with many relatively unknown missionaries and to acknowledge and commend these "forgotten" servants. It is also an effort to praise God for what they did in preparing the way for the missionaries and national leaders who actively serve in those areas today.*

---

**D**AMON DODD and his wife, SYLVIA, are widely known among Free Will Baptists. But they are known more for their pastoral and National Association ministries than for their missions activities. That is partly due to their relatively short stay on the mission field.

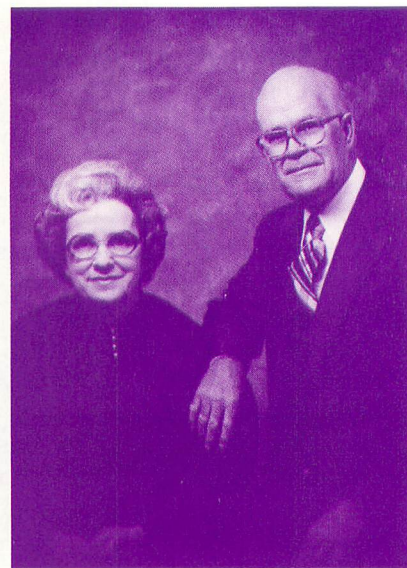
The Dodds went to Cuba in 1944 to labor alongside pioneer missionaries Thomas and Mabel Willey. Damon served as business manager and bookkeeper for the mission and taught some in the Bible institute/seminary. In addition to these activities, he traveled to different preaching points between Havana and Matanzas.

Damon also recalls working with "Pop" Willey in carving out foundation stones for the buildings on the Bible institute property in Pinar del Rio. With

the help of students, they hauled the building materials approximately two miles from the road on sleds pulled by oxen. "During those trips out to the road and back, the students sang hymns," says Dodd. "I learned the hymns from them."

When Sylvia became ill in 1946, the Dodds returned to the States so she could get proper treatment. Damon held a revival at Fellowship church in Flat River, Mo., and God blessed the meeting so abundantly that the people asked him to stay and pastor.

In 1950, the Dodds left Flat River for Nashville, Tenn., as Damon assumed the position of promotional secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. During that time he completed his book, "The Free Will Baptist Story." It was



Damon and Sylvia Dodd

published in 1956. That same year he accepted a post with the National Home Mission Board.

Following his resignation in 1958, Damon entered full-time evangelism for two years. Since then he has pastored in Georgia, Tennessee and back to Georgia. Currently he serves as pastor of Bellview FWB Church in Colquitt.

---

***Damon recalls working with "Pop" Willey in carving out foundation stones for the buildings at the Bible institute.***

---

Due to a brain tumor and subsequent surgery, his ministry has been somewhat curtailed in the last few years but he has maintained a keen interest in foreign missions.

BOB and JERRI WILFONG joined the Willeys in Cuba in 1949. Bob helped in "just about everything" at the Cedars of Lebanon Bible Institute. He taught, did mechanical work, repair work, acted as chauffeur, helped with the music and assisted "Pop" in

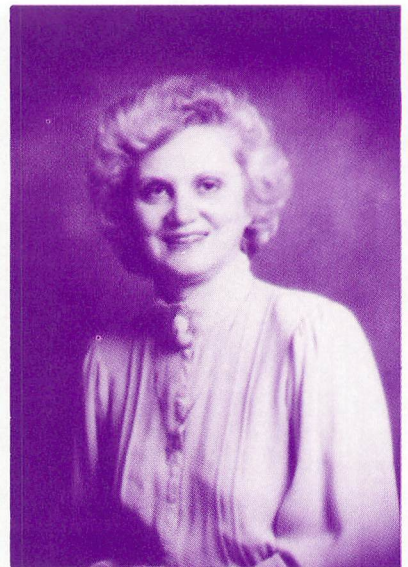




**Bob and Jerri Wilfong**



**Herbert and Edith Phenicie**



**Lucy Lima**

many ways. Jerri did secretarial work for the school.

The Wilfongs returned to the U.S. in 1952 and settled in Nashville, Tenn. After a short time they were sent by the National Home Mission Board to work in the area of Tampa, Fla. They ministered in the state of Florida for about 12 years. In 1963 they returned to their home state of Missouri.

Bob now serves as principal of Central R School in Flat River and Jerri and two of their daughters operate a secretarial business.

Although HERBERT and EDITH PHENICIE went to Cuba in 1948 under "Practical Missionary Training" with Christian and Missionary Alliance, they worked with the Willeys off and on. In 1953 they returned to Cuba on a full-time basis as Free Will Baptist maintenance missionaries.

Herbert's chief job was to keep the Cedars of Lebanon Bible Institute property in working order. He installed an electrical generator and dug a well on the property while there. Even though he spoke only a few words of Spanish,

he managed to communicate adequately with the students so the work was accomplished.

---

***Herbert's chief job was to keep the Cedars of Lebanon Bible Institute property in working order.***

---

According to Edith, working alongside the Willeys was a great thrill: "The way they dealt with people and with things that would happen was such a blessing to us."

Political unrest was growing when the Phenicies returned to the States in 1958. They settled in Tucson, Ariz., and lived there for 10 years before moving to Middle Tennessee. Edith joined the Church Training Service as bookkeeper while Herbert worked at raising rabbits. In 1975 they moved to Hillmont Camp at White Bluff, Tenn., where Herbert took care of maintenance. They are presently retired.

MISS LUCY WISEHART was appointed to missionary service and went to Cuba in 1953. She worked for three years as secretary-bookkeeper

for the Cedars of Lebanon Bible Institute. As she learned Spanish, she worked in DVBS, with the young people, and in the music ministry.

Following her furlough, she returned to Cuba and later married Felix Lima, a pastor in Cuba. The couple served in two different churches until they left the country in 1961 on the advice of the field council.

From 1962 until Felix's untimely death in 1983, the couple served as missionaries with the American Sunday School Union, known now as the American Missionary Fellowship. They worked at starting Sunday schools, missions, and churches among the Spanish-speaking people of South Texas.

Today, Lucy Lima is serving as managing editor for the Spanish department of Randall House Publications.







*These two testimonies show God at work through missionary lives. They demonstrate the value of sowing the gospel seed and allowing the Spirit of God to cultivate it. This couple came to know Christ as a result of such a faithful witness.*



## Edith Khader:

**I**'m a Yankee! I'm of English, Irish, Scottish, German, Swedish extration. And I'm married to a Palestinian Arab!

As I look back, I realize that all my life I had been searching. For what, I didn't know! I remember climbing into my father's lap at 14 years of age and telling him I didn't want to live anymore. I felt it was too sad here—war, sorrow, and tears.

I had been brought up in the Unitarian Church. Later, I attended a Baptist church, a Methodist church, and finally spent 10 years singing in the choir of an Episcopal cathedral in Denver, Colo. Then, prior to my marriage, I became a Catholic convert because my husband-to-be was a Catholic.

We went to Livramento, Brazil, on the invitation of my husband's first cousin. He turned out to be an evil, evil man—a multi-millionaire merchant trafficking in drugs. After those disappointing few months, we were rattling around Livramento trying to decide what direction to take.

---

***We were bathed in their love for each other, for their children, and for everyone.***

---

Then, we heard about Walter and Marcia Ellison, Free Will Baptist missionaries. My husband went over and knocked at their door. Marcia answered and said, "Come right on in-n-n-n!" So from that moment on, we walked right into their home, their lives, and their church which Walter had built, mostly with his own hands.

We hardly ever sat at the Ellison's table with less than around a dozen people. And others came in for counseling during mealtime. The phone rang endlessly. Everyone in town knew, or knew of the Free Will Baptist pastor. There were Sunday evening services and weekend picnics with the believers and the unsaved. We were bathed in their love for each other, for their children, and for everyone. It was a constant astonishment to me. There was tough love, soft love, and constant love for everyone—and it never failed.

---

***Finally, everything came together—as Marcia and Walter had so often said—in Jesus.***

---

I began to understand that this was what I had been searching for all of my life—this Christ-like behavior. But still, how was I to achieve it myself?

Eventually we returned to the States, broke, but glad to be back. One evening I heard Arthur Katz, a Jew, as he witnessed to a group in a Sunday evening meeting at an Episcopal church. Somehow I was ready. He detailed descriptions of his despair over the world-wide squalor, deceit, lust and angry destruction of human hearts and souls. That was precisely what I felt.

Finally, everything came together—as Marcia and Walter had so often said—in Jesus. The tears came. It was hours and hours, even days before the intense weeping for joy stopped. I went to my desk to write to my beloved Ellisons, to confide in them my hope and joy. Jesus was living within!

## Naim Khader:

For a period in my life, my god was the *dollar*. I wanted to be rich—or richer than I was. So, I closed my jewelry store business in Miami, sold my house and other assets, and moved my family to Livramento, Brazil.

---

***I had a gun pulled on me. The gun did not go off. I realize now that God had His hand on me.***

---

After some time, we were lonely and wanted to meet another American family. I heard of the "pastor" who was from the United States, so I took my wife and children to see these Americans. Well, Dub and Marcia began by greeting us as though we were friends! Sure enough, we became friends! Now we are family.

To shorten my story, I'll say that things were very bad for me in Brazil. I lost my money. I even had a gun pulled on me at close range. The gun did not go off. Now, I know that it was a miracle, but then I kept wondering why the gun didn't go off. I realize now that God had His hand on me.

I had the opportunity to live in the Ellisons' home for 30 days, and I experienced, on a daily basis, God's love through them. They planted the seed in 1974 and 1975. In God's timing I accepted the Lord as my Savior. Praise God!





**W**hen we flew over the city of Campinas on our arrival in Brazil, the city did not appear large. Oh, we knew Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, and Belo Horizonte were big cities, but somehow Campinas didn't strike us that way.

Only after two years of working in the city did we realize that many of the problems we were facing were actually big city problems. With 850,000 population, Campinas compares in size to Nashville, Tenn., or Oklahoma City, Okla.

Our heartbreak began with the realization that one Free Will Baptist church in a city that size could not meet the need. Faithful couples moved away and were lost to other churches or no longer went to church regularly, due to

distance. Relatively few people have automobiles, and though public transportation is available, it often involves many bus transfers to cross the city.

---

***Faithful couples moved away and were lost to other churches or no longer went to church regularly.***

---

For this reason, our second work in the area was begun an hour and a half to two hours by bus from the First Free Will Baptist Church. A growing congregation in an area known as Bandeirantes is led by Silvestre da Silveira Pinto Neto, his wife, two teens from First Church and the family who moved to that area of town.

Soon, other families also

moved away. A Sunday school on Wednesday afternoons was started in one home and averaged around 20 in attendance.

Neto won Lucio to the Lord at work. Lucio won Edilson. He, in turn, won Marcelo to the Lord and others have been won from Lucio's area of town. These teens ride an hour and a half to attend services at the First church. Often they meet for Bible study in their homes because they cannot regularly attend the services.

These last two groups are close enough to make a third congregation but we have a problem: We have no worker and no funds to rent a building. So we ask ourselves these questions: "Do we have an obligation to those we win to the Lord? Must our people

*by Vicki Sturgill*



# The Heartbreak of Big City Missions



stop witnessing to those who live far away?" We believe we have an obligation, and we do want Christians to witness, regardless of the distance.

A third preaching point already has been started in another home. Could this be the start of another church? We hope so!

We marveled recently as we brought the various groups together for an evangelistic conference. The small building of First Church was filled for almost every service. Cost makes it impossible to bring all the groups in every week. We realize we need to meet their spiritual needs in their own area of town.

Heartbreak comes from losing these talented and faithful workers who live far from the church. But, when they are used to start a new Free Will Baptist church in their own part of town, the heartbreak changes to heartfelt

---

### ***Must our people stop witnessing to those who live far away?***

---

joy. They want to be used, but they need the prayers of Christians everywhere. Starting a new work is discouraging at times, even under the best circumstances. But without leaders, it is impossible.

Workers and funds are desperately needed to continue these congregations. Please help us take the heartbreak out of big city missions!

---

Vicki Sturgill is the wife of missionary Jim Sturgill. They are in charge of the church in Campinas in the state of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

# HERE TO STAY!

---

*by Jimmy Aldridge, Advance Coordinator*

---

**T**heophilus insisted that I help the Christians draw up plans for a church building in their village of Kiendi. He had been one of the first in Kiendi to believe in Christ and, as a young sixth grader, he had boldly proclaimed his faith.

Now, Theophilus was trying for his high school exam and was the recognized leader of his group of believers. He had won many of them to the Lord, and they were concerned about their testimony, especially to their parents. The older ones had just told them, "We're not coming to your meetings until you have a building."

In this poor village of the Ivory Coast, their world view is relatively simple and very concrete. Christianity had been brought to them by white foreigners. They had seen missionaries come and go just as they had seen their French rulers come and go for almost two centuries. Only the buildings they constructed remained when they left. So, as long as no building stood in the village, the older people doubted this new Free Will Baptist group of believers to really be a church.

The Catholics built buildings! The Muslims built their mosques! Consequently, in their minds—no building, no church!

That group of young believers started saving their money and have been making cement blocks for about a year. Every time they can buy

a sack of cement, they can make about 25 cement blocks. They are determined to have a church building!

One of the major goals of our Advance celebration is to establish church loan funds in countries where needed. We also plan to make grants to small, struggling groups in the poor, third-world countries where they are trying to construct places of worship. When they erect a building, it sends a message to the people of that culture: "The church of Jesus Christ is here to stay! The foreigners may leave, but the church will not!"

Church loans have already helped us establish a permanent Free Will Baptist witness in Brazil, France, and Spain. One Free Will Baptist family in Arkansas bequeathed \$75,000 to foreign missions, much of which has been designated for church buildings in Japan. What an example of stewardship!

Loan funds are still needed in Panama, Brazil, Uruguay, Spain and France. Grants are needed for Ivory Coast and India. We'll have our opportunity to share with fellow believers as we give to help them *Advance* in their witness for Christ in villages and cities around the globe.





## Special Gifts to Missions

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

Donor	In Memory of
Mr. and Mrs. Robbie Griffin Colquitt, Ga.	Rory Griffin
Mr. and Mrs. Robert McNew Nashville, Tenn.	Robert Reid
Mrs. Owen Thomas Four Oaks, N.C.	Mrs. Lucille Parrish
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tomlinson Enterprise, Ala.	Jack Johnson Jean Hyman
Randall Memorial FWB Church Memphis, Tenn.	James Coscia
Mrs. Ruby Griffin Hughes Headland, Ala.	Chalmers Spivy
Belk FWB Woman's Auxiliary Belk, Ala.	LaVoy Newman
Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Fipps Tulsa, Okla.	Nancy Hancock
H. S. and Bessie Vandivort Cabool, Mo.	Homer Vandivort
Mrs. W. L. Roark Rogers, Ark.	William Harold Roark

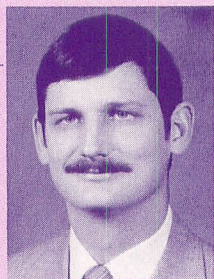
Clip and Mail Coupon

### Memorial Gift to Foreign Missions

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

### THEY NEED A DOCTOR!

KENNETH EAGLETON JR., M.D., has responded to God's call to minister to physical bodies in Ivory Coast, West Africa. At the same time, he will minister to their spiritual needs by presenting Jesus Christ. He and his family need partners to underwrite the expenses of their ministry. Kenneth's response as a medical doctor and surgeon is an answer to many prayers. Will you also be a part of that answered prayer?



YES, Dr. Eagleton, I want to help relieve the physical and spiritual suffering in Ivory Coast. As God provides, I will give monthly (Check one):

( ) \$20 ( ) \$50 ( ) \$100 ( ) \$10 ( ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ 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 Conference Part Two

### Preparing for the Conference

A pastor from Alabama recently commented: "My people truly enjoyed the conference this year. I feel that they are beginning to feel a greater burden for world missions." This encouraging report came from a man who had made preparation for the conference.

In my last column, I emphasized the necessity of early planning, establishing specific objectives and involving as many people as possible. This month I want to deal with preparation.

### Underwrite the missionary's expenses.

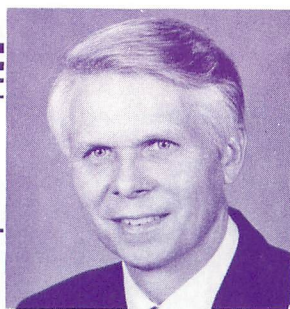
The most sensitive area of conference preparation is that of finance. Many people, including preachers, give a knee-jerk reaction to frank talk about money. Yet, biblical stewardship obligates us to share our funds to advance the gospel.

Few people take the time to calculate what it really costs a missionary to spend a week with them. Many mistakenly assume that a few dollars for gas and a meal or two should cover it. "All those big churches he visits will give him a big offering," some think. Free Will Baptists don't have that many big churches. And though we thank God for those which give a big offering (some of them very small churches), they are the exception, not the rule.

Consider the financial obligation the average missionary shoulders as he visits your church. He must pay rent, provide utilities and insurance, and buy groceries for his family while he's away. He must buy clothes and pay for his children's education like every other family man.

In addition (even while on furlough), most missionaries contribute from their account to vital overseas ministries such as youth camp, educational programs, evangelistic campaigns, etc. These ministries must be sustained while they are home. In addition, they must pay for the storage of their furniture overseas. In short, it costs approximately \$600 per week for a furloughing missionary to travel around and conduct deputational services.





**R. Eugene Waddell**  
Associate Director

By taking this into consideration, the church can more adequately plan to take care of the missionary's expenses. It is good to set a goal and try to raise that amount before the missionary arrives. This is often accomplished by the use of coin folders (we provide them free of charge). Some churches budget money for the missionary conference just as they do for revival expenses. Others designate enough money from their weekend offerings to cover conference expenses.

### **Adopt a missionary.**

It is best for the congregation to adopt a missionary or missionaries and seek to raise support for them. The old practice of supporting a different missionary each year contributes to the problem of deficit accounts. If a missionary leaves in 1984 fully underwritten, but one-fourth of his donors decide to shift support to someone else in 1985, he faces a huge three-year deficit.

I believe every Christian has a right to support the missionaries of his choice. But maximizing support for one or two missionaries has specific advantages. This approach allows and encourages the church and the missionary to develop a closer relationship.

"What shall we do if the missionary guest is someone we are not supporting?" someone may ask. Inform the speaker in advance that you will be recommitting support to your own missionary. It is very important that you seek to make your offering sufficient to cover the speaker's expenses. He will then promote the cause of missions as a whole and help raise support for his fellow missionaries.

Several good ways to support your missionary might be mentioned: Designate a percentage of your total church offerings for his or her support. Include the missionary in your church budget for a monthly gift. Use the faith-promise system. Receive an offering each month for your missionary's support. But be sure your support is consistent, whichever method you use.

**To be continued in July-August *Heartbeat*.**

## **Financial Summary**

**Through March 31**

### **Substance**

Contributions in March .....	\$ 197,077.66
Total Contributions through March .....	596,180.42
Total disbursements through March .....	584,497.72
Projected receipts .....	723,875.00
Total 1984 Budget .....	<b>\$2,895,498.00</b>

### **Shortage**

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Bailey .....	\$ 989.72	McCullough .....	\$ 1,287.45
Callaway .....	1,334.09	Miley .....	2,383.32
Combs .....	3,707.45	Owen .....	2,599.03
Gainer .....	419.47	Robinson .....	3,923.59
Inscoe .....	1,042.07	Teague .....	4,890.02
Lee .....	289.84	Willey .....	383.27
Lytle .....	3,208.09	General Fund .....	29,643.19
Total .....			<b>\$56,100.60</b>

## **State Quotas—1985**

State	Quota 1985	Quota Through March	Contributions Through March
Alabama .....	\$ 160,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 42,197.11
Arizona .....	3,000	750	1,483.63
Arkansas .....	155,000	38,750	27,892.70
California .....	55,000	13,750	8,421.66
Canada .....	3,000	750	369.45
Colorado .....	3,000	750	265.00
Florida .....	83,000	20,750	19,712.18
Georgia .....	97,000	24,250	27,100.05
Hawaii .....	1,000	250	—
Idaho .....	1,000	250	194.44
Illinois .....	92,000	23,000	16,747.48
Indiana .....	26,000	6,500	5,894.68
Iowa .....	750	188	293.00
Kansas .....	12,000	3,000	1,394.41
Kentucky .....	82,000	20,500	15,400.09
Louisiana .....	500	125	99.55
Maryland .....	14,500	3,625	2,265.79
Michigan .....	125,000	31,250	23,153.02
Mississippi .....	47,000	11,750	11,317.18
Montana .....	1,000	250	240.00
Missouri .....	187,000	46,750	35,465.26
Nevada .....	1,000	250	90.00
New Mexico .....	500	125	3.18
*Northeast Association .....	5,000	1,250	1,391.75
**Northwest Association .....	4,000	1,000	535.00
North Carolina .....	362,000	90,500	82,939.18
Ohio .....	110,000	27,500	27,543.20
Oklahoma .....	362,000	90,500	74,015.90
Pennsylvania .....	2,000	500	421.00
South Carolina .....	200,000	50,000	31,407.87
Tennessee .....	395,000	98,750	77,914.55
Texas .....	75,000	18,750	12,315.28
Virginia .....	95,000	23,750	18,751.66
Virgin Islands .....	2,000	500	1,849.29
West Virginia .....	80,000	20,000	10,704.40
Miscellaneous .....	53,248	13,312	16,391.48
Totals .....	<b>\$2,895,498</b>	<b>\$723,875</b>	<b>\$596,180.42</b>

\*Northeast Association  
New Hampshire, Vermont, New Jersey, Maine, Connecticut, Washington,  
D.C., and Massachusetts

\*\*Northwest Association  
Alaska, Oregon, and Washington



## Bryan Says Thefts Off, Illness Clinging

*Ivory Coast*—"We are doing much better mentally and spiritually since the thefts seem to have slowed down," writes Robert Bryan from Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Robert reported a wall across the rear of the property has nearly been completed and the anti-theft bars were scheduled to be put on their windows during the week of March 17.

The Bryans have been plagued with health problems during February and March. Judy had a sinus infection aggravated by a lung infection. Antibiotics helped the problem but it returned when the medication ran out.

The Bryans urged people to pray that their health would improve.

## 102 People Attend Family Retreat in Jaboticabal

*Brazil*—At least 102 people attended a family retreat in Jaboticabal, Brazil, February 16-20.

Doctors Igor and Vera, professors at the school of medicine in Botucatu taught classes to the adults and the young people. Three Brazilian young people taught the children. Missionary Bobby Poole brought the messages during the retreat following the theme, "What It Means to Live."

## Victor Reports Victory As 97 Turn to Christ

*Ivory Coast*—Pastor Anany Victor of Bondoukou, Ivory Coast, reported 97 people had turned to Christ recently in the village of Kanassi.

"I have so much joy that I don't even feel the fatigue, especially since I know that you must work before receiving a blessing from the Lord," writes Victor. According to him, the public confession and repentance of sin by the Samuel Appia family sparked revival in the entire city of Bondoukou.

The evangelistic team from the Bondoukou church went to Madame Appia's home village of Kanassi to preach on March 5. At the call for repentance, 55 people were converted.

"Five days later, we filled a six-ton dump truck and two pickups with Christians and went back to Kanassi so all could see what the Lord had done," Victor continued.



Five-year-olds do homework during a Bible Club session in St. Nazaire, France, as Tom McCullough lends a hand.



Tom McCullough, left, leads a song as Jerry Gibbs plays the guitar during Wednesday Bible Club at St. Nazaire, France.

"We had sent word for the Christians from Appimandoum to meet us there. We filled the village with believers and sang loudly with great joy! After the message, 42 more people stepped forward to pray to receive Christ!"

Victor concluded by noting that a friend of his wife had come from a village 80 miles from Bondoukou to visit them. "On the second day here, she was saved!" he stated.

## Judy Smith Reports Progress; Plans Furlough

*Japan*—Missionary Judy Smith reports from Kita Hiroshima, Japan: "The church is doing well. We're in the process of officially organizing and that takes time here. We're all meeting on Sunday after church and are drawing up the church covenant. Also we are organizing the woman's auxiliary."

Judy noted that several new people had begun attending services lately. She added, "The Lord is giving us the opportunity to minister to several patients at a rehabilitation center near here. We recently had a concert at our church featuring a blind singer, a famous Christian tenor. Several of the center's patients came and were really touched by his testimony. The morning and evening services were both full."

Judy has tentatively planned to leave Japan on May 31 to begin her regular furlough time. She is expecting to arrive in Henderson, Tex., on June 2.

## St. Nazaire Bible Clubs Meet Parents' Desires

*France*—Wednesday Bible Club was started in St. Nazaire, France, recently upon the request of parents.

"We were approached by two





Judy Lytle coaches her VBS class at Betania FWB Church in Panama City, Panama.

families to have catechism classes for their kids," writes Tom McCullough. "These are unchurched, non-Christian families with a background in the Protestant Reformed Church in France. We now have contact with four families not in our church, but their children come to our club."

Tom noted that all of the parents and some grandparents of the children have been to the St. Nazaire church at least once. Currently McCullough and Jerry Gibbs teach 12 children in the club.

### Ellisons Report Five Saved in Montevideo

*Uruguay*—Missionary Marcia Ellison reported via amateur radio that five people were saved and one person rededicated his life to the Lord on March 10 in Montevideo. According to the Ellisons, this is a real breakthrough in the work.

Although the postal strike in Uruguay has been temporarily called off, the Ellisons still seemed somewhat skeptical about the reliability of the mail.

"Our work continues to move slowly forward," writes Dub. "This week we were able to attend the South American Conference on Fundamentalism held here. What a treat! The Robinsons and we had some good fellowship with the speakers. All of them spoke highly of the Free Will Baptist work here in Uruguay. One of our young preachers was on the program for morning devotions, an honor to him and to us."

The Ellisons expressed real con-

cern over a new openness on the part of the new government. A newspaper reported officials have declared several communist, socialist and other leftist groups as organizations in good standing.

### VBS at Betania Has 15 Professions of Faith

*Panama*—According to Judy Lytle in Panama, the Betania Free Will Baptist Church held a regular vacation Bible school during the first week of March with an average attendance of 64. Fifteen children made professions of faith during the week.

"It was the best VBS we have ever had!" says Judy. "The children came with an attitude of, 'I'm here to learn about God and His Word.' It was tremendous to see."

The final program was held on the morning of March 4 with an attendance of 102 people.

### Coscia Begins Furlough; Surgery is Planned

*Brazil*—Louis and Florine Coscia were scheduled to arrive in the United States on April 18 to begin their furlough from Uberaba, Brazil.

According to latest reports, Louis will have to enter the hospital sometime soon for corrective surgery on a hernia.

Louis noted that a national lay preacher had been asked to assume responsibility for the work in Uberaba while they are on furlough. The young people from the church in Uberlandia have also offered to help during this time.

Recent prayer meetings in homes have resulted in several salvation decisions in Uberaba. And a greater zeal to share the love of Christ is evident among the group.

### Mini Reports from Around the Globe

*Ivory Coast*—Norman Richards reports having told the leaders of the church at Agnibilekrou that he and his family would be departing for furlough sometime in late July. "They don't relish our leaving but have accepted the responsibility of carrying on the church services," says Norman. A house near the current meeting hall has been rented for church service.

*Japan*—Reports from Japan indicate that missionary Jerry Banks suffered a broken ankle during a recent skiing accident.

*France*—Miss Dawn Sweeney is scheduled to conclude her current phase of language study at Albertville, France, during the last week of June.

*Ivory Coast*—Missionaries Alice Smith and Arilla Wode both spent several weeks in the United States around the end of the year visiting relatives. When they returned to the Ivory Coast, one of Arilla's suitcases was lost by the airlines. At last report, it had not been recovered. The suitcase contained an electronic typewriter, some battery packs, etc.

*Uruguay*—Paul Robinson has been put on a "stop work" basis for the present due to a ruptured disc in his back. This has been difficult for Paul since he is involved in a remodeling program at the Santa Teresa church in Rivera.

*Ivory Coast*—In a March 13 report from Ivory Coast, missionary Sandra Payne was declared to have been experiencing chest pains. An EKG indicated she has a heart irregularity and was prescribed bed rest for two weeks. A later report indicated no improvement, so Sandra and Eddie were scheduled to leave Ivory Coast for early furlough on April 25.

*Spain*—Jeff and Susan Turnbough reported having another convert in Villalba, Spain, as a lady prayed in their home on March 21. "She is probably in her 50's," writes Jeff.

Continued on page 14→





Yuko Sogabe, of the Iriso FWB Church in a Tokyo suburb in Japan, testifies during a Sunday evening service at the Donelson FWB Church in Nashville, Tenn. Vivian Hersey, daughter of missionaries Fred and Evelyn Hersey, interprets.

→ Continued from page 13

"She has been attending our church services for some time." The Turnboughs were scheduled to arrive in the United States on May 1 to begin furlough. They requested prayer for Dennis and Trena Owen who will assume the Villalba work.

**France**—Allan and LaRue Crowson plan to return to the States sometime in June to begin their regular furlough from France.

**Searcy, Ark.**—Mrs. Pauline Wilson, mother of missionary Vada Lee, had surgery on March 5 for the removal of a growth on her thyroid gland. Reports indicated the growth was benign and Mrs. Wilson was recovering fine.

**France**—"We have just finished the distribution of 5,800 gospel tracts here in Nantes," writes Cathy Crawford from France. "We have already received 10 requests for Bibles as a result of the response cards we included with the tracts."

**Ivory Coast**—Missionaries Mike and Deleen Cousineau became parents for the second time on March 9 at the missionary hospital in Ferkesedougou, Ivory Coast. The six-pound baby girl, their second daughter, was named Kristina.

**Japan**—Nine-year-old Tracey Bailey, daughter of missionaries Ken and Judy Bailey, had a bicycle accident on Sunday afternoon, March 24. Tracey was returning home from English Bible study at Iriso Free Will Baptist Church in a suburb of Tokyo, Japan, when the accident occurred.

She lost one front tooth, sprained her arm, and suffered multiple cuts and bruises. She had nine stitches taken in her chin.

**Brazil**—According to missionary Tom Hughes in Uberlandia, Brazil, the church was scheduled to begin construction of their Sunday school building in late March or early April. "We would like to move into it by the time our meeting hall rent contract is up on the last day of August," Tom stated.

**Aurora, Ill.**—Jean Wilson, wife of former general director of foreign missions J. Reford Wilson, underwent major surgery on Tuesday, March 19. Latest reports indicated surgery was successful, and Mrs. Wilson was recovering normally.

**France**—Short-term missionary Larry Lovell is reportedly doing well in France. "Larry is really a worker and a good witness on campus and in the church," writes John Murray. "He is doing an excellent job with the English Bible study."

## Nashville Churches Hear Two Converts from Japan

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Misses Yuko Sogabe and Rumi Sugiyama from the Iriso Free Will Baptist Church in the Tokyo area of Japan visited Fred and Evelyn Hersey in Nashville in mid-March. While in Nashville the two young ladies gave their testimonies in three FWB churches: Fellowship, Donelson, and Horton Heights (woman's auxiliary).

Yuko is studying to be a nurse

while Rumi has been working in a Christian bookstore in Japan. Since neither speaks English fluently, MK Vivian Hersey translated for them as they shared what Christ means to them.

"It is because Mr. and Mrs. Hersey came a long way across the ocean to bring the gospel to Japan that I came to know Christ and accepted Him as my Savior," stated Yuko. "It is simply because someone came with the gospel and because Christians were praying here in America that I, as well as others, have accepted Christ, I am full of gratitude."

The two young ladies returned to Japan on March 29.

## Brazil Youth Camps Report Nine Conversions

**Brazil**—Nine conversions were reported in the two youth camps held in Jaboticabal, Brazil, January 7-11 and 14-19.

Three Brazilians, Jeancarlo Ache, Flavia Moura, and Renata Francoi planned and directed the junior camp under the theme of "Faithfulness." The teen week carried the theme, "Teaching the Way According to the Truth."

Eula Mae Martin Fornel taught a study on Philippians, and Bobby Poole taught the doctrines of salvation, regeneration, justification and sanctification.

Earnie Deeds was the evangelist for the week.

## WNAC/Foreign Missions Banquet Set for July 23

**Nashville, Tenn.**—The Woman's National Auxiliary Convention and the Department of Foreign Missions will join together at a banquet on Tuesday, July 23, during the National Association in recognition of 50 years of foreign missions efforts.

The WNAC, long known for its special efforts of promoting and praying for missions, has invited foreign missions to present the program during this year's special commemorative meeting.

An exclusive program entitled, "From Victory Unto Victory" will be presented. Banquet seating capacity is limited and those desiring to purchase tickets have been urged to get their orders in early.

Tickets may be ordered from



WNAC or from the executive office of the National Association. The cost is \$11.50 per ticket (not the \$12.00 reported in the April *Contact*).

### Three Rains Break I.C. Meningitis Crisis

*Ivory Coast*—After a month and a half of unending meningitis patients at the hospital in Doropo, Ivory Coast, three rains came in answer to prayer. That is exactly what the missionaries, the Ivory Coast Christians and others had asked God to send. The results—the crisis is over!

On March 27, Sherwood Lee reported they had admitted "only one new patient in the last several days." At least 307 meningitis patients were treated at the clinic since January 30.

During the crisis, missionaries reported admitting patients in such large numbers that they could not even attend all of those who were in the worst condition.

Clint Morgan reported the government was thinking of closing the borders and markets in order to reduce crowd contact. But he noted, "funerals are as big as markets, and I guarantee they can't stop funerals."

Those working at the station reported using medicines so fast they could not get enough. Clint made a number of trips to Bouake and Bouna to pick up medicines. All of those working in the clinic were exhausted and needing a vacation.

In spite of the strain, fatigue, and the sadness at losing patients, missionaries were rejoicing that at least 10 persons had prayed for salvation at the clinic during the epidemic, and all of the patients heard the message of Christ. They also reported having received many new invitations to go to villages and preach the gospel.

### Sparks Reports Converts, Two Weddings, and Growth

*Spain*—A mother and daughter were saved in early March at the Alcala de Henares Free Will Baptist Church in Spain. Lonnie Sparks stated that the husband/father of the two attended a special Father's Day service on March 19 and "was pleased with what he heard. We hope and pray that he, too, will be saved."

Two weddings are scheduled for May 25 at the church: Jose Manuel Parron is to marry Carmen Bolano

and Mark Riggs, short-term missionary, is to marry Juli Bolano. These will be the first weddings to be held in the church.

The youth meetings on Saturday night have been growing, according to Anita Sparks. Some Saturday nights as many as 32-35 young people meet together.

### Rain in Ghana Turns the Tide of Hunger

*Ghana*—Abundant rain has turned the tide of hunger in Ghana, report missionaries with Sudan Interior Mission. "Maize is plentiful. The government is buying and storing surplus as a hedge against dry season shortages and as an encouragement to farmers to continue planting," said Jim Mason, SIM director for Ghana.

Accra's major daily newspaper, "The Mirror," said that the nation can give thanks to God for the good harvests that have brought down the price of grain to 30 cedis. Last year, the price went as high as 300 cedis.

Water behind the Aksombo dam, which had fallen below operating level, is rising steadily, and a dependable supply of electricity should soon be available.

---

### To Order Barnard Book

Those interested in ordering "Touching the Untouchables," by Laura Belle Barnard, may send \$6.50 (\$5.95 plus 55 cents postage and handling) to, "Barnard Book," Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tenn. 37202. Those residing in Tennessee will need to add another 46 cents in sales tax. This price will be honored through July 31, 1985.

### Brazil FWB Association Meets in Ribeirao Preto

*Brazil*—The Brazil Association of Free Will Baptist Churches met in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, on February 2. A total of 36 representatives from five Free Will Baptist churches were present.

Jose Laurito, co-pastor of the Jaboticabal church and student at the Bible institute in Ribeirao Preto, brought the message which dealt with the dangers in the Christian life.

These officers were elected: Silvestre Pinto Neto, president; Ken Eagleton, vice president; and Benedito, secretary.

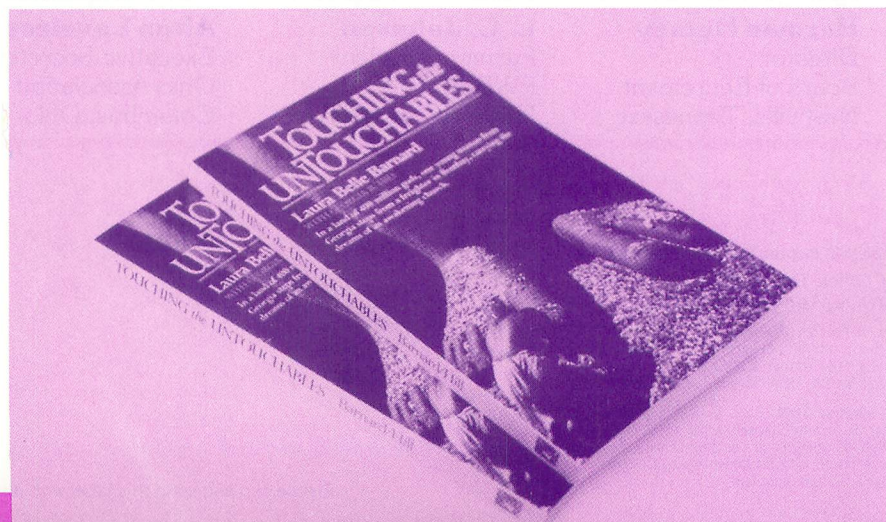
Geneva Poole was asked to continue publishing "Folha Evangelica," the monthly paper for the association.

### O.M. Says Sind Region of Pakistan Open

*Pakistan*—In spite of regular hostility from certain quarters, people in the Sind region in southeast Pakistan are more open than ever to receive the Word of God, reports an Operation Mobilization team.

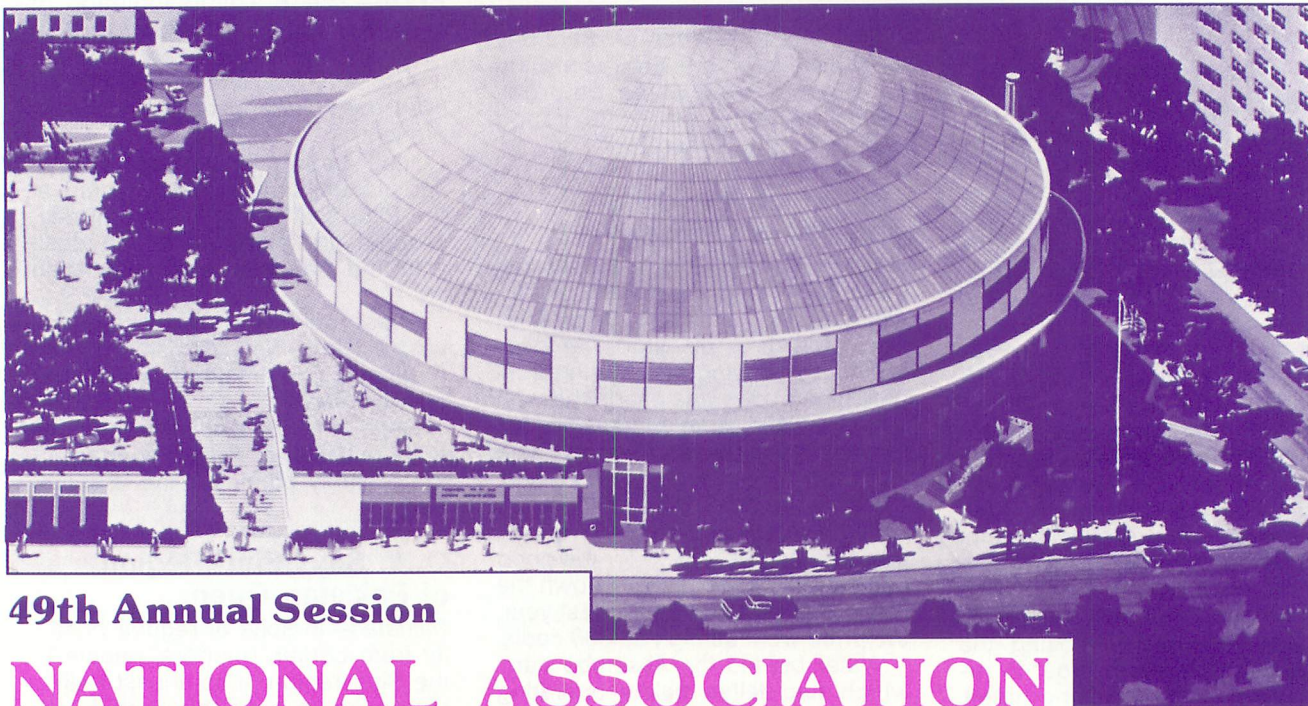
The team reports high sales of Christian literature. In one village, the day started unpromisingly when they were taken off to the police station only minutes after they began to sell Bibles on the street. However, after a cup of tea, all were friends again, and the constabulary provided a police escort to the next bazaar they visited.

"It was an amusing sight to see the local sergeant selling gospel packets out of the window of our transit," one worker declared.





**MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE  
July 21-25, 1985**



**49th Annual Session**

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

***Theme: "Focusing On Free Will Baptists"***



**Herman Hersey**  
Director  
Board of Retirement  
Nashville, Tennessee



**L. C. Johnson**  
Former President  
FWBBC  
Nashville, Tennessee



**Alton Loveless**  
Executive Secretary  
Ohio Association  
Columbus, Ohio



**Floyd Wolfenbarger**  
Pastor  
First FWB Church  
Russellville, Arkansas

**HEARTBEAT**

**of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions**

Post Office Box 1088  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

**Board of Foreign Missions:** Bill Jones, chairman; Bob Trimble, vice-chairman; Jim Walker, secretary; Fred Warner, Dan Cronk, Bill Fulcher, Norwood Gibson, Archie Mayhew, Galen Dunbar.

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

Please clip and send this label with all correspondence.