

MAY 1986

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world



Uberlandia, Brazil, has a new FWB church auditorium.



Fred Hersey shows Eugene Waddell the new Iriso FWB church property.

Growing Together for God's Glory



Missionary Jim Sturgill (left) presents the shepherd's staff to Silvestre Pinto Neto signifying his passing of the Campinas FWB Church pastorate to the newly ordained preacher.

Ordination Service Held for Brazilian Pastor

Brazil—The ordination service for Silvestre da Silveira Pinto Neto was held on February 23 in the First Free Will Baptist Church of Campinas, Brazil. Adolfo Tiburcio was also ordained as a deacon during the service.

Missionary Jim Sturgill conducted the service. Missionary Jim Combs gave the report of the examining council and preached the sermon. During the service, Sturgill passed the leadership of the church to Neto and symbolized the transition by passing a shepherd's staff to the young pastor.

A total of 85 people were on hand for the Sunday night activities as vehicles brought people from the Bandeirantes church and the Pauliceia mission for the special evening service. The newly ordained deacon will continue to work in the Bandeirantes church where he has labored for the past four years.

"Our three congregations really have a tremendous fellowship with one another," write the Sturgills. "They are asking for joint rallies or activities every two or three months."

Neto's father-in-law, Pastor Francisco Rodrigues, was on hand for the ordination and took part in the service. He is a Southern Baptist pastor.

43 Teens from Three Areas Attend Outing

Ivory Coast—On February 14 the teens from Agnibilekrou, Ivory Coast, went to Goumère for a day's outing. They were joined there by teens from the Tanda and Goumère churches.

According to Alice Smith, two Bible

studies were conducted during the outing, one by a school teacher and the other by a university student. The studies dealt with the death of Christ and biblical Christian convictions.

Sharon Ferguson, Arilla Wode, and Alice prepared the meal. "We fixed enough spaghetti, bread and butter, cookies, and Kool-aid for an army," writes Alice. "Every bite was eaten."

After lunch the group played games. A total of 43 teens were present.

Georgia Junior Church Helps Two Missionaries

Columbus, Ga.—Children from the junior church of the Weems Road Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus, Ga., have taken on regular support of Rick and Linda Bowling, missionaries to Uruguay. They also had a special project in February to help Archie and

Sarah Mayhew get back to the Ivory Coast.

On the first Sunday of each month the junior church gives a missionary offering. During the first quarter they received \$33.44 for the Bowling account.

As a special project, a Valentine's Day king and queen contest was sponsored by the group. Seeking votes for one cent each, the children worked diligently and wound up with \$273.56 for the Mayhew account. Brian Walsh was crowned king and Crystal Tate was crowned queen of the Valentine's event.

The winners were also given plaques. Pastor of the church is David Kemper.

Gainer Promoted, Takes Five-month Study Leave

Japan—Associate missionary Mirial Gainer was recently promoted to associate professor in the English department of Hokusei Gakuen University in Sapporo, Japan. According to Mirial, the university decided to give her a five-month study leave in the United States beginning March 18 and ending September 3.

Miss Gainer is studying computer science at Florence-Darlington Technical College and Victorian literature in an independent study program under a professor of Francis Marion College. Both programs will allow her to stay with her mother in Florence, S.C.

The International Exchange Committee at Hokusei also has asked her to do public relations work with two sister schools. March 19-22 was spent

Crystal Tate (left) and Brian Walsh (right) are crowned queen and king of the Valentine's Day king and queen contest for the junior church of Weems Road Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus, Ga. The contest raised \$273.56 for the Archie and Sarah Mayhew account.



at Buena Vista College, Storm Lake, Iowa. She also held some counseling sessions with four students from Hokusei who are attending that school. August 31-September 3 will be spent in Portland, Ore., at Lewis and Clark College. Miss Gainer is scheduled to escort a contingent of 20 or more students from there to Sapporo where they will attend Hokusei for six months.

Mirial hopes to be able to write and program materials on the computer for use at Hokusei and other institutions of higher learning in Japan.

69 Brazilian Campers Yield 25 Decisions

Brazil—A total of 69 youth attended camps in Jaboticabal, Brazil, during the latter part of January. Twenty-five youth made various decisions for the Lord during the camps.

Thirty-four campers attended the junior camp with 12 making decisions and 35 teens were on hand for the second camp with 13 decisions being made.

Missionaries Jim and Shirley Combs and Jim and Karen Cowart were aided in the camps by Brazilian workers Cecilia Virdes and Ivan Lopes. Several young preachers from five Free Will Baptist churches brought the evening messages: Neto, Campinas; Benedito, Araras; Jose, Jaboticabal; Jeancarlo, Ribeirao Preto; and Ricardo and Paulo of Uberlandia.

Former missionary Eula Mae (Martin) Fornel also helped.

Cousineau Excited by Work Near Flakiedougou

Ivory Coast—Missionary Mike Cousineau recently made a trip to visit believers near Flakiedougou, some 100 kilometers from Bouna.

"I was encouraged," writes Mike concerning three groups of believers he visited. They had sprung from one convert who shared his testimony, and a few other Christians who moved to the area. "The three groups averaged 100 adults, 60 adults, and 50-55 adults," Cousineau explained. "There is another new group with about 10 believers. The Spirit of the Lord seems to be working like a brushfire. We are in desperate need of someone to work with them on a permanent basis. I'm going every other week."

The Cousineaus are scheduled to



The new church auditorium at Uberlandia, Brazil, has been finished but is awaiting completion of the church furnishings so it can be dedicated and put into use.

leave for furlough this month and Mike lamented: "The hard thing about leaving is that there will be no one to care for the village work. Pray for wisdom as we try to solve this problem."

New Church Completed; Dedication Postponed

Brazil—According to a late March report from missionary Tom Hughes, the new church auditorium in Uberlandia, Brazil, has been completed. The dedication was not held in February as planned because the furniture was not ready. Plans now call for a May or June dedication service.

Tom noted that the church was not utilizing the auditorium yet except for the baptistry and two classrooms for Sunday school and the Bible Institute. The church has averaged 100 in Sunday school attendance during the past year.

Mini Reports from Around the World

Ivory Coast—Jerry Pinkerton has been building a garage for Dr. Kenneth Eagleton and his family so they will have a place to store their barrels. A mid-March report indicated the garage was almost completed.

India—R. Eugene Waddell, the new general director of foreign missions, reported having witnessed eight people baptized and received as church members on Saturday, March 1, in South India. Sixteen more were baptized and received as new members

in another church on the following day. Waddell requested prayer for a group of believers meeting in a town near Kotagiri. They need a leader and a meeting place.

Liberal, Mo.—Stan and Brenda Bunch departed for Panama on April 10 to begin their missionary ministry. They had been delayed due to needed surgery on the leg of their youngest daughter, Alicia.

Tulsa, Okla.—Mr. Carl Payne, father of missionary Eddie Payne, went through a very critical time in the hospital recently following surgery. His kidneys had stopped functioning and hope looked slim, but God answered prayer. Latest reports indicated his body functions were on the mend and his condition much improved. Christians were urged to continue praying for Mr. Payne.

Brazil—Antonio da Silva, who has been laboring as assistant pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, was officially ordained to the ministry on March 9 in Ribeirao Preto.

Ivory Coast—A February report from Doropo, Ivory Coast, indicated a rabid dog on the Doropo station was killed by two men who were working on the Eagletons' garage. At least 15 children were playing in the Eagletons' yard at the time.

Brazil—Classes began during the first week of March at the Seminary and Bible Institute of Ribeirao Preto, Brazil.

Between 25 and 30 students were registered. An extension course was also started in Jaboticabal by missionary Jim Cowart with 10 students studying.

France—Missionary Lynn Miley has requested prayer for Jacques Lafehas and his fiancée Marie-Helene who were converted late last year. Their families are very opposed to their having accepted Christ and left the Catholic church.

Mannford, Okla.—Reverend Royce Gene Bishop, 57-year-old father of missionary Dale Bishop in Japan, died suddenly of heart failure on March 17 near his home in Oklahoma. Mr. Bishop and his wife, Dorace, had only recently returned from a visit to Brazil. He was pastor of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church in Mannford, Okla. He is survived by his wife, four sons, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Bishop, Sr., of Winslow, Ark. Dale flew home for the funeral and spent some time with his mother.

Spain—Miss Lynn Midgett, missionary to Spain, began a 20-day course of rehabilitation therapy on March 6. After suffering from pain between her shoulders, Lynn went to a bone specialist who confirmed that she had scoliosis.

Panama—Recent political unrest in Panama closed down the supply of gas, milk, and bread. Latest information indicated the situation had improved significantly.

France—Nineteen young people attended the first youth meeting at Lorient recently. The group played games, sang some songs, viewed an



Former missionary builder Howard Gage (right) demonstrates African artifacts during the "Nickelodeon Funfest" at West Side FWB Church in Pryor, Okla. The event capped a \$12,000 fund-raising effort to buy the Darrel Nichols an automobile in Ivory Coast.

evangelistic film, heard a short devotional, and finished the evening with pizza and brownies.

Nashville, Tenn.—The foreign missions finance department has noted a severe drop in the value of the dollar in Japan. Similar losses have hit France, Ivory Coast and Spain. Donors have been urged to take up the losses by increased giving (see "Iriso Church Buys" in this issue).

France—The Free Will Baptist Church in St. Nazaire, France, has started the process of purchasing property for a church building. According to missionary Jerry Gibbs, the property is located near a shopping center. Jerry estimated they would be needing another \$20,000 to start construction.

Nashville, Tenn.—An afternoon reception was held at the National Offices building in Nashville on April 2 in

honor of Rolla D. Smith, retiring general director of foreign missions, and his wife, Agnes. The drop-in reception was attended by nearly 100 from the Nashville area.

"Nickelodeon Funfest" Caps Fund-raising Effort

Pryor, Okla.—The West Side Free Will Baptist Church of Pryor, Okla., just successfully completed a \$12,000 fund-raising project designed to provide the Darrel Nichols family with a vehicle in Ivory Coast.

Various fund-raising events over a period of two years were used to raise the money.

A "Nickelodeon Funfest" was held on February 15 to complete the project. The entire community of Pryor was involved as individuals and local merchants contributed to the funfest. A total of \$2,500 was raised to cap off the fund-raising effort.

Reverend Richard Callison is pastor of the church.

The Nichols were expecting to arrive in Ivory Coast about May 1. They have been studying the French language in France.

Kita Hiroshima Church Elects Kawasaki Pastor

Japan—According to a March report from Jerry and Janice Banks in the Sapporo area of Hokkaido, Japan, the Kita Hiroshima church has called Reverend Kawasaki as pastor.

Kawasaki had been working with the church and with missionaries during the past eight months. He had also continued the work which he started

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Rolla Smith (right) demonstrates a plaque from his daughter, Beth Whaley, during a reception at the National Offices on April 2 in honor of his retirement from office as general director of foreign missions.



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at Ai No Sato. He will keep on working with this group as he pastors Kita Hiroshima Chapel.

The Banks noted that three people—two teens and a woman in her late fifties—were scheduled to be baptized soon. Several new people have been attending services recently.

Several Missionaries to Arrive for Furlough

Nashville, Tenn.—Several missionary families are scheduled to return to the United States in May or early June.

These two couples and two single missionaries will be returning from Ivory Coast: Mike and Deleen Cousineau were scheduled to leave their field on April 30 to begin a short furlough. Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson plan to leave their station around May 7 and Arilla Wode and Alice Smith are scheduled to arrive in the U.S. about May 21 to begin their regular furloughs.

Steve and Judy Lytle will be arriving in North Carolina on May 19 from Panama.

Ron and Linda Callaway, who work in the Madrid area of Spain, are scheduled to arrive in the United States for furlough around the first of June.

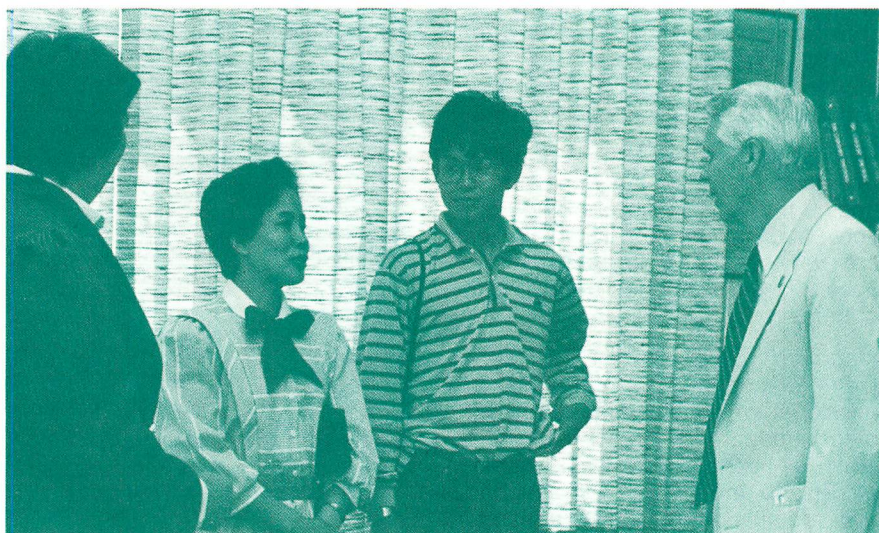
Three Japanese Friends Visit Judy Smith in U.S.

Henderson, Tex.—Three Japanese friends visited missionary Judy Smith in Henderson, Tex., near the end of March.

Mrs. Akiko Morishita and her 15-year-old son Daisuke were accompanied by Nozomi Sasaki, also 15 years of age. The threesome arrived in the States on March 20. Nozomi, the daughter of the former Muslim lady who was recently baptized at Kita Hiroshima, had to return to Japan on March 26. Mrs. Morishita and Daisuke returned to Japan on April 3.

The visitors accompanied Judy in services at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Henderson and the Conroe Free Will Baptist Church of Conroe, Tex. Two women's auxiliary groups honored the guests while they were in their areas.

Mrs. Morishita, a member of Kita Hiroshima Chapel on the island of Hokkaido, Japan, has been a Christian for six years. She and her son accompanied Judy to the Nashville,



Mrs. Akiko Morishita and her son Daisuke of Japan are introduced to R. Eugene Waddell, the new general director, by missionary Judy Smith.

Tenn., area where they attended the annual Foreign Missionary Fellowship retreat March 28-30 at Camp Na-Co-Me. The retreat is sponsored by the FMF of Free Will Baptist Bible College. Mrs. Morishita gave her testimony at Cofer's Chapel FWB Church in Nashville on Sunday night, March 30.

Jerry and Janice Banks recently told of Akiko's purpose for the trip which she had revealed during a prayer meeting at Kita Hiroshima prior to coming to the U.S.: "She told the prayer group that she doesn't consider her trip to be one for pleasure, but she feels like it is an opportunity God has given her to help Judy. She wants to tell the Free Will Baptist brothers and sisters how much Judy is needed in Japan and to encourage them to help her return soon."

Measles and Meningitis Cases Increase at Doropo

Ivory Coast—"In the last three months we have had about 200 cases of measles," writes Dr. Kenneth Eagleton from Doropo, Ivory Coast. "Three of these have died of pulmonary complications. We have also had 34 cases of meningitis since the last few days of January. Only one of these patients has died."

Dr. Eagleton noted that March of last year was the worst month for the meningitis epidemic. He expressed assurance that the vaccination campaigns had helped to cut down drastically on the number of cases.

Correspondence from Carol Pinkerton noted, "Last week (March 2-8) a 22-passenger taxi brought in 29 people from a village—mommies and babies with measles! Some were already part way through the door of death when they arrived."

Uruguay Bible Institute Reopens with 16 Students

Uruguay—The Sower Bible Institute in Montevideo, Uruguay, opened its second semester on April 1 with 16 students. According to missionary Molly Barker, several young people from the Rivera area were scheduled to attend. At last report some problem had developed in providing housing for some of the youth.

The Walter Ellisons have requested special prayer on behalf of the institute and those who are involved.

Financial Summary Through March 31 \$ Substance

Total income for March	\$ 215,501.59
Total income through March	652,187.04
Total disbursements through March	812,397.87
Projected income through March	744,221.00
Total 1986 Budget	\$2,976,884.00
1986 ADVANCE Budget	201,526.00

\$ Shortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:			
Bailey	\$4,882.28	Murray	\$ 3,705.47
Banks	8,238.54	Nichols	1,250.04
Callaway	7,596.53	Owen	7,908.36
Ellison	718.70	Sturgill	6,213.46
Inscoe	4,146.48	Wiley	516.41
Lytle	3,444.72	General Fund	\$13,083.67
McCullough	4,945.76		
Total			\$66,650.42

Panama Missionaries Cite Postal Problems

Panama—Missionaries in Panama, the Steve Lytles and Larry Inscoes, have expressed concern that people who correspond with them be made aware of problems in the mail system in Panama. Quite a lot of trouble has developed in the postal system lately so that often they receive mail very late or not at all. Steve and Larry indicated they also have reason to believe some of their letters to the States never get out of Panama. Donors and friends are encouraged to be patient and pray for the mail system to improve.

Callaway Requests Prayer as Furlough Approaches

Spain—With furlough time approaching for Ron and Linda Callaway, Ron has expressed concern for the work at Mostoles, Spain, and has requested special prayer:

"Pray for the salvation of the families of Pepe, Ima, and Pascual and a gang of four or five boys who come to the youth meetings and mid-week service." Ron also urged people to pray for several young people who have professed Christ but now have grown cold toward His work. Callaway concluded by reminding people to pray for Dennis and Trena Owen who will assume responsibility for the work.

Iriso Church Buys Land, Seeks Permit

Japan—According to a late March report by missionary Fred Hersey, the Iriso Free Will Baptist Church in Japan



Missionary Fred Hersey (center) and R. Eugene Waddell (left) discuss building plans with men from the Iriso Free Will Baptist Church while Waddell was visiting Japan. The church, located in a suburb of Tokyo, recently purchased property.

has proceeded to buy land for their church.

The farm land which the church has purchased requires a permit to build on it. Only churches, schools, etc. can get a permit to build on farm land and churches now have trouble getting permission. Fred requested prayer that the paper work will be processed without difficulty. He anticipates the process to take about two or three months.

The "step of faith" will cost the church over \$137,000 for approximately 3,600 square feet of land (about \$38 per square foot). In addition, the group expects to pay at least \$45,000 for a small two-story building.

Regular city land just a short distance away costs \$80 per square foot.

"There is a good spirit among our people," writes Hersey. "A number of unsaved are continuing to attend our services. We feel some will make a profession of faith soon."

Fred expressed deep concern over the loss in value of the dollar against the Japanese yen. Although paying the same amount of rent in yen as last August, today that represents \$194 against \$141 in August. All other expenses have gone up accordingly. This fact has caused severe deficits in some missionary accounts. Christians have been urged to pray for a strengthening of the U.S. dollar.

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