

JULY-AUGUST 1987

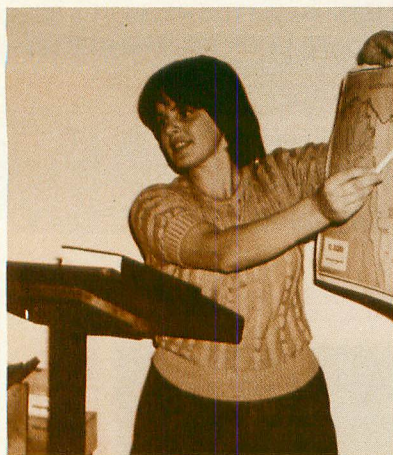
HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world



Can I Be A Missionary?



Can I Be A Missionary?

by Shirley Sartori de Castillo

Can I be missionary when I grow up? I know I'm only a little girl now, but is it possible to see that desire fulfilled when I'm grown?" I asked Glenda Fulcher, Free Will Baptist missionary in Rivera, Uruguay. I was only seven years old at the time.

"Yes," Glenda lovingly responded, "if your desire is sincere, God will surely bring it to pass. You see, I also wanted to be a missionary when I was a little girl."

I was encouraged!

Looking back, I recall when the church meetings started. The missionaries had invited our family to attend but no one wanted to go. My Italian-born father, with his leftist ideas, especially opposed our attending the services.

But tragedy struck, and the course of things changed! My father fell victim of a progressive paralysis. At first it affected his feet and legs, then it moved to his arms and hands, and finally it claimed his life.

It was a hard blow for me. Suddenly Daddy was no longer with us. At six years of age it was hard for me to understand. But I have never forgotten the lifeless, pallid

figure of my father. Perhaps God used that memory to interest me in spiritual things.

After Daddy's death I began to attend Sunday school. I loved the lessons Dona Glenda taught and many times during an invitation to accept Christ as Savior I realized I was a sinner and wanted to change. Finally, during one of those classes, I truly accepted Jesus Christ and gained assurance of my salvation. During that time the truths of God's word, the heroes of the Bible, and the missionary stories began to penetrate my life, never to be erased.

I regret the departure of the Fulchers and I thought nobody would tell such beautiful stories again. But God had prepared another couple that would touch my life deeply: Paul and Amy Robinson.

I continued to attend church and each time I loved it more. My mother no longer opposed me but she didn't encourage me either. The rest of the family became a challenge to me. They demanded from me a Christian testimony that I was not capable of giving at that age. They continually insinuated that church wasn't worth the effort because it hadn't done anything for me. At times

they wouldn't let me attend but in spite of that God was caring for me and guiding me. When I was 13 years of age I was baptized along with a large group of young people and adults. That day was especially difficult in my home but by the grace of God I was able to overcome.

A short time after my baptism, my mother began to attend church and was saved. That proved to be another tremendous victory for me.

During my adolescence a special friendship developed with Paul and Amy Robinson. Their daughter, Becky, and I were about the same age and we were friends. We began to go daily with a small group of young people to the Robinsons' house. We chatted, joked, and ate a lot. We had a good time! Years later Paul told me he had never seen so many (kilograms) of bread consumed so rapidly.

Suddenly Daddy was no longer with us. At six years of age it was hard for me to understand.

We felt very much at home and very happy that anyone would care about us enough to give his or her time, love, and home to counsel us in the way of the Lord. When I look back, I can see how the hand of God was protecting us from the turbulent years of adolescence. For this reason the temptations that often accompany Christian young people didn't have much affect on my life. In spite of not having help from my own family I had found it in the

Robinsons who were mother and father to me.

Even though I was poor, I was a good student. I always had to work through the summers but during my last year of high school I had to work the entire year. The Ellisons, Free Will Baptist missionaries in Livramento, Brazil, at that time, provided me with work in the Christian Book Store there. Since it was so far from my house, Molly Barker invited me to eat lunch with her every day. In this way the missionaries not only taught the Word of God in theory but also in practice.

When I finished high school I had to decide what I would do with my life; so I made my own plans. I still wanted to be a missionary so I determined to be a single missionary doctor in Africa. I entered the University of Medicine in Montevideo in 1978.

The first frustration for my "excellent plans" came when I met Ariel, a wonderful Christian man. We were married when I was 19 and he was 24. There went my plans to be a single missionary!

My second year became more and more difficult because of the many hours required for study. At this time Ariel and I had a great desire to go to a Bible school but all of our attempts in Uruguay were in vain. We had no Free Will Baptist institute at the time.

We had visited the Bethany Bible Institute in the state of Parana during our honeymoon in Brazil. It was a veritable garden of Eden. We had inquired about the

possibility of studying there—but alas! They didn't have facilities for married students. Since we had an increasing desire to study, once again we hitchhiked the 1200 miles in hopes of being accepted. Again we heard the same answer.

We were disillusioned and couldn't understand why God was denying us the opportunity to study when we so desired to serve him. We didn't know that God was just waiting for the opportune moment.

The first frustration of my "excellent plans" came when I met Ariel.

Once more we returned to the Bethany Bible Institute in Brazil and to our surprise the director asked us, "Would you still like to study here?" Without a moment's hesitation we answered, "Of course!" We couldn't believe it! Just when we thought there was no hope, God revived it all. The next few weeks were a whirlwind as we returned to Uruguay, got our documents in order, and said goodbye to everyone.

We entered the institute with great peace and joy. That is only possible when one is in God's will. We were able to put Christianity into practice so that others would know us by the way we love one another, not by our eloquence, excellent homiletics, prayers, or songs.

On the last day of our second year our daughter Viviane was born. That completed our happiness and confirmed in our hearts that

God was caring for every detail of our lives.

We graduated on December 10, 1984, and on the same day received the wonderful news that my 88-year-old grandmother had accepted Christ in our church in Rivera.

Before long, we had to decide about our field of work. We sought God's will and were offered a position as teachers in the Bethany Bible Institute in Mexico.

I had planned to be a single medical missionary in Africa, but God's plan included marriage. He wanted me to be a missionary along with my husband in Mexico.

For all of this I thank and praise God who manifested Himself so real in my life. When there is submission and sincerity on our part, He takes charge of the rest and guides us in the path He planned for us.

This work of God in my life was made possible because missionaries sustained me spiritually, loved me, and directed their time to me. Above all else, they taught me it is always better to do the good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

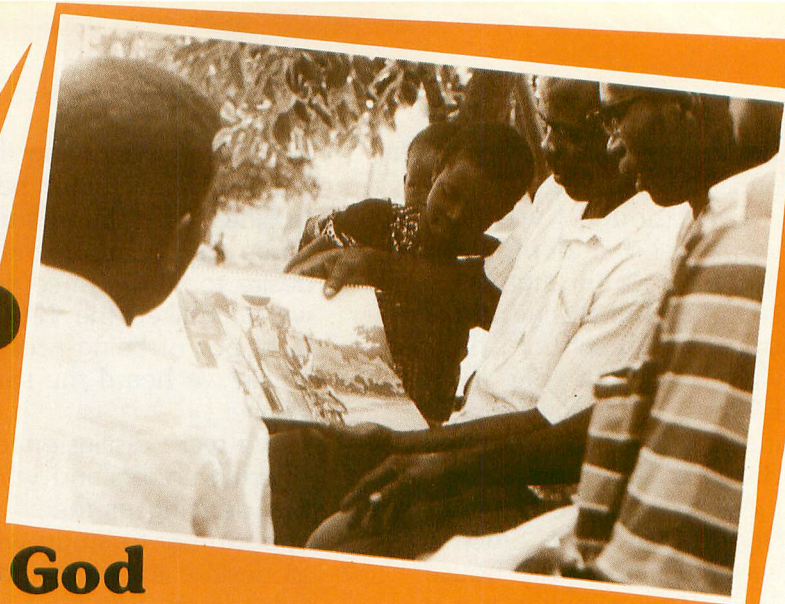
Thank you Bill and Glenda Fulcher, Molly Barker, and Paul and Amy Robinson.

Shirley Sartori de Castillo has been serving with her husband, Ariel, at Bethany Bible Institute at Matehuala, Mexico, a ministry of Bethany Fellowship Mission of Minneapolis, Minn. Now the couple serves on the Mexican border, working with the Mexican Free Will Baptist churches.



"THE GOOD CHIEF"

Points the way to God



The Good Chief parable is the most effective tool I have seen for reaching Africans with the gospel," says one veteran missionary. Another underlines its effectiveness when she says, "The Good Chief filmstrip is the only filmstrip I've ever shown at which people immediately made decisions to receive Christ."

What they're talking about is a simple parable written and produced by Free Will Baptist foreign missionaries. It is already in use in at least six African countries and has been eagerly received wherever it has been shown. The story is making an impact among varied African cultures, from village farmers to city dwellers.

The Good Chief parable was born when some missionaries were discussing how best to present the gospel to people in a tribal culture.

As four of us, Don Robirds, Jimmy Aldridge, Allan Crowson, and I, prayed and debated these questions, we determined an unsaved person needs to know at least four things: who God is, who Satan is, what sin is, and who Jesus is.

The Koulango, Lobi, and Agni cultures, in which Free Will

by Robert Bryan

Baptist missionaries work, all agree that man does wrong and needs forgiveness. They believe blood sacrifice is imperative to appease the spiritual powers. Although they admit a creator god does exist, they claim their own wrong is not disobedience to God's laws. Rather, it is disobedience to the rules of the village and tribe, and in particular insulting the earth by violating taboos. The word "sin" is reserved for certain heinous crimes such as killing someone by black magic, or cursing one's mother.

The Africans believe in a creator god, but the idea of a loving God, interested in men's affairs, is alien to their thoughts. In their theology, once the creator god had finished the creation, he pulled away from man and is now untouchable. He has given man the fetish through which he is to approach the spiritual powers. The fetish is considered good: It gives life to a newborn child, for instance, but if someone dies, people say, "God killed him."

Jesus is unknown, and Satan is not recognized for what we know him to be.

Taking all of this into account, we prayed and discussed the situation, then decided that a parable, a story form used every evening in countless African courtyards, would be an excellent vehicle to teach God's truth. The Good Chief parable is a tool we developed to help people make an intelligent decision to receive Jesus Christ as Savior.

We were amazed at how easily the story developed. The basic text was written in two days' time. When the idea was presented to the Christians at the village of Kpanan, they enthusiastically left their farm work, even though it was during their busiest season, to act out the parts. Within two days the original 80 scenes were all photographed.

The story of "The Good Chief" compares two village chiefs. The one, Kouame, loves his people and provides for them. He constructs a new village for them, and explains his rules, which, if obeyed, will assure a harmonious, happy village.

For a time all goes well, until Yao, a sub-chief, determines to overthrow Kouame and begins to incite the villagers to disobey

Kouame's rules. Finally, as he is chased from the village he cries out: "This old chief's ways are out of date. Come with me and you can do what you want to."

Some people follow him, but they soon discover that his promises are empty. The land is poor, water is scarce, and Yao himself is a thief. Because of the drinking, cheating, and lying, fights break out and people are killed. Yao introduces the fetish, but sacrifices to it bring no relief.

Good chief Kouame, saddened when he hears of this, sends messengers to tell the rebels that if they will turn from following Yao, they will be forgiven and can return to the good village. Yao tells the people that Kouame is lying and stirs them up to kill the messengers.

Finally, Kouame's son asks his father to send him, since "if they hear the message from my mouth they'll know that you really mean it." In spite of Kouame's misgivings, his son goes to the rebel village. Yao seizes this opportunity to incite the people to kill the son to show Kouame once and for all that they are through with him.

In spite of his son's death, Kouame's love pushes him to send messengers to make one final appeal: "Come now and you'll be forgiven. If you refuse, you'll be destroyed." Some people finally understand that it's Yao who is lying to them. They accept the message and return to the good village. Others laugh it off and remain in the rebel village.

Those who return to the good village are received with celebration. But that night, Kouame's army surrounds and destroys the rebel village as he had warned.

The parable gives a springboard to explain that God is good; He created the world and everything in it. He loves us, gives us rules that are for our good, continues to be interested in us, and is patient and just. Satan is shown as a deceiver and liar who promises freedom but delivers slavery.

Sin is explained not as dishonoring the earth, but as rebellion and disobedience to the laws of a holy God. Jesus Christ is presented as the one who loves us enough to give up his own life for man. We know that no parable can adequately show the substitutionary death of Christ; however, this one gives an excellent starting point from which the teaching can be made clear.

The Good Chief parable is a tool to help people make an intelligent decision to receive Jesus Christ as Savior.

In addition to the basic teaching about God, Satan, sin, and Jesus, the story counteracts some false ideas about being a Christian. For instance, many people have said, "Well, God's laws are okay for you, but we Africans can't live by them. They're too hard." The story shows that God's laws are designed for our good. Rather than being too hard, obedience brings happiness.

Not only has the parable proven good for evangelism, but it also is effective for beginning follow-up of new converts, particularly of those who can't read.

To help produce one thousand flip charts of the

parable, Bible Literature International gave \$7,300. Other costs were shared among Free Will Baptist missionaries in the Ivory Coast and the general operational fund.

Scripts in French were printed by the Evangelical Publications Center (CPE) of which I am director. These and the flip charts are being distributed throughout French-speaking Africa; already more than 500 flip charts have been sent out. Perhaps because the scenes are African and therefore not so "foreign," the flip charts are being effectively used by lay people. Roland Bowman, Christian and Missionary Alliance missionary in Gabon, says, "We have found that most of the time it is missionaries who use flip charts, but The Good Chief flip charts are being used by Africans for evangelism all over southern Gabon."

This cultural tool for evangelism is reaching people from central Africa all the way to its western shore. Now, we are praying that we and others will use it wisely to present the gospel to thousands who have never yet had the chance to hear the name of Jesus.

Robert Bryan serves with his wife, Judy, in the city of Abidjan, Ivory Coast, West Africa. He is director of the Evangelical Publications Center.

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Part 1

One morning in the quiet pre-dawn hours I suddenly awoke to find that I was lying on the bare mattress! The sheets, mattress cover, pillow cases, and bedspread were all missing from our bed! I remember thinking, "This must be a bad dream!" I couldn't sleep. I was very uncomfortable, so I decided to get up, take my shower, and start the day. But I was surprised when I opened the closet door to find that there was not one towel, not one wash cloth. Nothing was in the linen closet! Had we been robbed during the night?

I needed a cup of coffee! But as I entered the kitchen and flipped on the light, I was greeted by another tremendous shock. My kitchen counter tops were empty. The coffee maker was gone. I had no blender, no can opener, and no toaster. I

opened the cabinets and noticed that all the dishes and tableware were missing as well. What could we do? We couldn't sleep, we couldn't bathe, and we couldn't even eat! It seemed that almost every area of our lives had been affected.

***All of the items missing
had one thing in
common—they all came
from the Provision Closet.***

Then it dawned on me. All of the items missing from our home had one interesting thing in common—they all came from the Provision Closet!

No, we didn't really get robbed! This was just an imaginary dream. But it has served as a shocking reminder of the vital part the Provision Closet plays in the lives of the missionaries.

The Provision Closet is not exactly a "closet." It is more like a walk-in department store. It is maintained by the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention in the Free Will Baptist National Offices building in Nashville, Tenn. And it is for the sole use of Free Will Baptist home and foreign missionaries.

The "closet" is stocked out of love through the prayers, work, and sacrifice of woman's auxiliaries all across the United States. They always have an abundant supply of all the necessities of homemaking: sheets, towels, bedspreads, dishes, cookware, Tupperware, small appliances, etc.

The Provision Closet is a tremendous blessing for us missionaries! It has saved us money, time, and "headaches."

My dream may have been make-believe, but that is exactly how our house would be if the Provision Closet were missing.

Dreaming or Destitute?

by Judy Lytle

(Left) Lucille Steward,
of Michigan,
brings a "PC" supply and
(right) Susan Turnbough
gets Lorene Miley's help in the
"Mini K-Mart."



Because hundreds of concerned and faithful ladies across the country really care, the Provision Closet is a reality. I'm thankful my "dream" was only a dream after all!

Part 2

"Super-vision" Closet

by Shirley Combs

We were unpacking our missionary barrel one day when one of our daughters was very young. She asked, "Mama, did we get these things from the 'Super-vision' Closet, too?" When we all realized she meant Provision Closet, we had a good laugh and the expression "super-vision" closet became a part of our private family vocabulary.

Before our return to Brazil in 1985, our family stopped by the Provision Closet once more. Our teenagers enjoyed helping us select the things from our list. After seeing all the things our ladies had generously supplied for missionary families, we could see that they definitely have a SUPER vision!

When I asked my missionary husband what he thought about the Provision Closet, he answered with a grin, "When I get up, I have slept on Provision Closet sheets, under a PC quilt. I dry my face on a PC towel and put on a shirt pressed by a PC steam iron. I sit down to eat out of PC dishes, drink out of a PC cup, cut my papaya with a PC knife, and eat food prepared with PC electric blenders and beaters. I even have screwdrivers from the Provision Closet."

Not only has our family benefited from the items, but we have used them to entertain

people from every continent of the world. They have served many strangers, Brazilian families, co-laborers, church groups, American missionaries, and student summer missionaries.

Our Provision Closet supplies have even been to church! Many little Brazilian shepherds and wise men have been draped in Provision Closet sheets and towels, fastened by those nice safety pins included in the Provision Closet sewing boxes.

We polled our three Brazilian-born children about the Provision Closet: Nineteen-year-old Cindy said, "It shows people are concerned about missionaries and want to help out. It took a lot of people and plenty of work to furnish these things for us."

Many little Brazilian shepherds and wise men have been draped in Provision Closet sheets and towels.

Kemper, age 21, declared, "It really helped me at Hillsdale and saved us a lot of money."

Tania, 16, added, "It's practical for missionaries because they don't have to go out and buy all the basic things for the house. My favorite thing is a homemade quilt (in my favorite color, lavender) that I use in my room. It has the names of Free Will Baptist women from Missouri—women I don't even know. It looks like it took a long time to make it, and I appreciate all the people who have gone to the trouble of sending it to the Super-vi . . . , whoops, I mean, PROVISION CLOSET!"

We never cease to be amazed at the generosity of our Free Will Baptist women and their SUPER VISION in helping missionaries in this way. From Brazil we say, "Muito Obrigado!!" Thank you very much!

Part 3

Miniature K-Mart

by Susan Turnbough

As I look back, I first remember giving to the Provision Closet things that missionaries needed. Then, in 1982 as we were getting ready to leave for Spain, I saw the well-known Provision Closet for the first time! My first thoughts were, "Wow, this isn't a closet but a miniature K-Mart!"

We needed several things to take to the field, but honestly, we could not afford them. The Lord provided our needs through the Provision Closet.

In Spain we so enjoyed the nice sheets, the warm quilts, the pretty towels, and a tremendous supply of Tupperware! God is so good to us, using the WNAC to meet our needs (James 1:17). We even found some pretty pictures and toys for Matthew and Melissa. Although these were not actual needs, they were such nice things for the children.

The longer we were in Spain, the more the Lord increased our ministry to Spanish friends in our home. And God used the Provision Closet to manifest Christ's love in a very practical way: Our friends would often ask, "Susana, where did you get such pretty and durable dishes?" That gave me an opportunity to tell them about the women's love gifts through the Provision Closet. I could just see the

Continued on page 8 →

→Continued from page 7
surprise in their eyes!

One particular time an unsaved woman remarked, "That is so wonderful! Because here we only do that for family members whom we really love!" It was so natural for me to tell of Christ's love and provision for us. Then, I told how Christians live His love by sharing freely with others.

When we returned to the United States to begin our furlough, we needed several things in order to set up house again. It was just great to return to the "miniature K-Mart" and gather the things we needed.

Melissa, our five-year-old, had heard so much about the Provision Closet that anytime we needed something, she would automatically say, "Let's go check the Provision Closet!"

Matthew, our nine-year-old, has also really appreciated the Provision Closet. He has exclaimed on more than one occasion, "Mom, it's so nice of the ladies to give to the missionaries. Can we write them and say thank you?"

As we got our things ready to return to Spain, the Provision Closet again provided many wonderful treasures. Some precious women even called and asked, "What do you need? We would like to send it to the Provision Closet for you and your family."

From the bottom of our hearts, we are very thankful for the Provision Closet. But we are much more thankful for the many women who share in this wonderful ministry!

Judy Lytle and her husband, Steve, serve in Panama City, Panama. Shirley Combs is the wife of missionary Jim Combs in Jaboticabal, Brazil. Susan Turnbough and her husband, Jeff, are in their second term of missionary service in Villalba, Spain.



Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions is setting new records. Missionaries and nationals are preaching the gospel in 76 organized churches and 126 mission works overseas. Sixteen new works were opened abroad this last year.

These new churches are being born because our churches here in the United States have teamed up with our 120 missionaries serving in the regions beyond. And God is honoring the faithful prayers of those who are pleading for Him to thrust forth and use other national laborers to reach their own people.

We recently concluded an analysis of our support during 1986. Total contributions last year, including Advance Celebration gifts, were \$2,995,919. This is a 12.5 percent increase over the previous year. We were thrilled to discover 1,560 churches, a record number, are supporting

foreign missions. We would like to have every Free Will Baptist church participating.

Twenty-seven churches supplied 14 percent of the income to the foreign missions department.

These 10 churches, listed in order, gave the most in 1986: (1) Fellowship, Kingsport, Tenn.; (2) Central, Royal Oak, Mich.; (3) Donelson, Donelson, Tenn.; (4) Cofer's Chapel, Nashville, Tenn.; (5) First, Locust Grove, Okla.; (6) First, Monett, Mo.; (7) West Side, Pryor, Okla.; (8) Southern Oaks, Oklahoma City, Okla.; (9) First, Norman, Okla.; (10) Ina, Ina, Ill.

The 27 churches which gave \$10,000 or more provided a combined total of \$422,563. These 17 churches joined the top 10 in this category: Bellview, Colquitt, Ga.; Bethlehem, Ashland City, Tenn.; Cross Timbers, Nashville, Tenn.;

Our Goal—100 Percent Participation

Growing Toward The Goal

by R. Eugene Waddell

First, Darlington, S.C.; Piney Grove, Chipley, Fla.; First, Raleigh, N.C.; Calvary, Swannanoa, N.C.; Victory, Goldsboro, N.C.; Liberty, Durham, N.C.; First, Savannah, Ga.; Calvary Fellowship, Fenton, Mo.; Sherwood Forest, New Bern, N.C.; First, Deerfield Beach, Fla.; West Calvary, Smithfield, N.C.; First, Florence, Ala.; Horse Branch, Turbeville, S.C.; Trinity, Greenville, N.C.

These 27 churches supplied 14 percent of the total foreign missions income. The statistics also show that over 80 percent of the foreign missions income is generated from 500 churches (19 and one-half percent of the denomination's churches).

We recognize that the 1,061 churches giving something between one dollar and \$1,000 are making an important contribution and many of these are supporting for the first time. A good number of these churches have also become involved in the Advance Celebration.

An examination of the missionary support by states shows the top five states to be Tennessee (\$386,559); Oklahoma (\$362,767); North Carolina (\$360,573); Missouri (\$213,313); and Alabama (\$145,173).

In Tennessee and North Carolina the number of churches supporting represents approximately 82 percent of those listed from their states in the National Association. In Missouri the figure is 59 and

one-half percent, in Alabama it drops to 55 and one-half percent, and in Oklahoma—the number two state—it falls to 41 percent.

The majority of the top 10 churches have one thing in common: One of their sons or daughters is serving overseas. For example, Central Free Will Baptist Church in Royal Oak, Mich., for many years the top supporting church, has sent out eight Free Will Baptist missionaries from the church and another girl is serving under OMF International.

In some cases a church has adopted a missionary family and is generously supporting them as their own. For example, First Free Will Baptist Church of Locust Grove, Okla., has adopted the Dave Filkins family and has seen their support for missions grow from \$5,100 to \$28,416 in just three years.

As strange as it may seem, the strongest supporting churches are not necessarily the largest churches in the denomination. These facts should encourage our smaller churches to stand up and be counted also.

In conclusion, I am certain the growth of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions depends on the prayer support of our churches as well as donations. We are grateful to hear that an increasing number of churches are including missions prayer time in their weekly schedule.

Because more of our home churches are giving and praying, more people are being saved and helping to establish Free Will Baptist churches in their communities around the globe. We rejoice that the sun is always shining on a Free Will Baptist church somewhere in the world.

Several states have done well in getting a good percentage of their churches involved in missions giving. Those having a 75 percent or better record are listed (except the top five already shown):

State	Percentage	Number of Churches Giving	Number of Churches in State
Georgia	75	92	123
Iowa	100	1	1
Idaho	100	4	4
Illinois	80	36	45
Indiana	84	21	25
Kansas	85	11	13
Maine	100	1	1
Michigan	88	44	50
Mississippi	76	44	58
Montana	100	2	2
New Hampshire	100	1	1
New Jersey	100	3	3
South Dakota	100	1	1
Texas	85	55	65
Virgin Islands	100	1	1
Wyoming	100	2	2

They Paved The Way

In this series, the Heartbeat staff is selecting and recognizing some of those who have made significant contributions to foreign missions ministries in the past.

ESTENIO and ANITA GARCIA and their three children, originally from Cuba, went to Panama under the Department of Foreign Missions in 1964. Estenio sparked a much-needed impetus in evangelical witness which resulted in the establishment of a church in Panama City and missions in neighboring communities.

Garcia was converted while a cadet in the Cuban army. He received training for the ministry at the Free Will Baptist Cedars of Lebanon Bible Institute in Pinar del Rio, Cuba.

During the Cuban revolution, Garcia was elected president of the Cuban Association of



Estenio Garcia



Mr. and Mrs. J. Reford Wilson

Free Will Baptists. Due to increased communist pressure, he left Cuba on June 22, 1964.

Estenio immediately accepted the offer to minister as a missionary. He relocated his family in Panama City, Panama. Many Panamanians came to know Christ through his ministry. In addition to the work at Panama City, Estenio helped to establish works in Agua Buena and Nuevo San Juan.

Many Panamanians came to know Christ through his ministry.

Due largely to Mrs. Garcia's continuing bouts with malaria, the Garcias determined to return to the United States in January of 1970.

A fourth child rounded out the Garcia family and they continued their ministry outside the denomination. Estenio has pastored the Spanish Department of First Baptist Church in Hempstead, L.I., New York, for 16 years.

J. REFORD WILSON served some 30 years in some capacity with the foreign missions department. First elected to the Board of Foreign Missions in 1951, Reford continued in that role until 1962 when Rolla Smith resigned as general director to re-enter the pastorate. At that time the board selected the native of Oklahoma to take the helm of the foreign missions department.

Reford and his wife, Jean, moved to Nashville from Holdenville, Okla., with Jonathan and Rebecca, their two children, in March of 1962. Mr. Wilson became the third person to hold the title as general director of foreign missions. He maintained that office for 13 and one-half years.

Today, the Wilsons reside in Aurora, Ill., where Reford serves as pastor of Butterfield Community Church, a Free Will Baptist affiliate. They moved there in September of 1979 following four years in Moore, Okla., where Reford taught missions at

Special Gifts to Missions

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

Donor

Arthur Norris
Benton, Ill.

Dale and Sandra Bishop
Noppo, Japan

Lillie Roberts
Johnston City, Ill.

Laura Patton
Russellville, Ark.

Earl Roberts
Nashville, Tenn.

Ranger FWB Church
Belleville, Ark.

Hurricane Chapel FWB Teen Class
McEwen, Tenn.

In Memory of

Florence Norris

B. H. Filkins

David Roberts

Nina Patton

Mrs. Roberts

Robert Sides

Shirley Lindsey

Donor

Semirah Springs Woman's Auxiliary
Uriah, Ala.

In Honor of

Laura Belle Barnard

Clip and Mail Coupon

Memorial Gift to Foreign Missions

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Address _____

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Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College.

Among many memorable moments while serving as foreign missions general director, Reford recalls the joy of preaching overseas and witnessing personally to nationals. He recollects seeing a young Brazilian man to whom he witnessed receive Christ. He also remembers sharing with an African the plan of salvation from the French Scriptures, then asking Archie Mayhew to pray with him. And he joyfully reflects on his trip with Eddie Payne, Sherwood Lee, and Larry Miley to a village in Ivory Coast where the people had never before heard the gospel.

On one occasion Reford was in Japan with Jerry Ballard, who was serving as director of communications at the time. They had just bought new cameras in Tokyo. The next day, missionary Herbert Waid and Jerry went on a photo expedition while Fred Hersey took Reford to do some shutter snapping. Since Fred is a good photographer in his own right, he selected the area and the scenes for Wilson to capture on film. That evening, as they were to put their film together for developing, Reford opened his camera to discover NO FILM! He mistakenly thought Ballard had loaded the camera.

A year or so later Reford decided to compensate for his humiliation. He set up a projector and a screen in his office to show the staff some of his slides. As eager eyes awaited the scenes from abroad, the projector clicked: Slide number one, blank; slide number two, blank; number three, blank; four, blank; five, blank. Amid the suspense and stifled laughter Wilson shouted, "April Fool." It was April 1 and he told them they had just seen his slides from Japan.

Reford recalls the joy of preaching overseas and witnessing personally to nationals.

While serving as chief of the foreign missions thrust, Wilson was able to see the annual budget increase from \$215,141 to \$926,293 and the adult missionary force jump from 38 to 93. His contribution was valuable in paving the way for the next 12 years of Rolla Smith's tenure. Wilson left his post in 1975 but was re-elected to the board in 1978 for another six-year hitch.

Reford and Jean have two granddaughters: Maegan, born to L. T. and Becky Wilson Reddick of Montgomery, Ill., and Leah, daughter of Jonathan and Marti Wilson who are currently in Durham, N.C.

Financial Summary

Through May 31

\$ Substance

Total income for May	\$ 252,447.52
Total income through May	1,149,073.59
Total disbursements through May	250,825.60
Projected income through May	1,399,541.65
Total 1987 Budget	\$3,358,900.00
Advance receipts through May	\$ 68,051.07
1987 ADVANCE Budget	\$ 160,000.00

\$ Shortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Banks	\$ 2,892.74	Lee	\$ 4,845.19
Barnard	1,700.00	Mayhew	20,918.96
Bishop	8,169.59	McCullough	6,891.79
Combs	12,465.16	McLain	2,668.47
Crosby	5,981.78	Murray	5,295.88
Crowson	1,031.83	Nichols	3,142.38
Ellison	2,571.35	Payne	41.69
Gilliland	4,421.83	Smith, Judy	1,387.80
Hanna	3,588.10	Willey	2,294.08
Hersey	4,413.57	Wilson	1,156.00
Total			\$114,200.40

State Quotas—1987

State	Quota 1987	Quota Through May	Contributions Through May
Alabama	\$ 205,000	\$ 85,417	\$ 63,178.75
Arizona	5,000	2,083	1,070.00
Arkansas	175,000	72,917	52,343.71
California	57,000	23,750	16,938.58
Colorado	3,000	1,250	1,400.00
Florida	105,000	43,750	27,030.61
Georgia	120,000	50,000	54,524.17
Hawaii	2,500	1,042	1,143.00
Idaho	1,100	458	413.52
Illinois	105,000	43,750	36,257.99
Indiana	36,000	15,000	13,370.62
Iowa	2,000	833	329.44
Kansas	14,000	5,833	5,743.14
Kentucky	91,000	37,917	31,035.31
Louisiana	600	250	.00
Maryland	17,000	7,083	4,113.84
Michigan	140,000	58,333	45,631.75
Mississippi	72,000	30,000	18,011.60
Missouri	210,000	87,500	85,471.03
Montana	1,200	500	170.00
Nevada	1,200	500	430.00
New Mexico	600	250	115.17
*Northeast Assn.	7,500	3,125	1,255.00
**Northwest Assn.	6,000	2,500	1,858.50
North Carolina	400,000	166,667	154,240.77
Ohio	135,000	56,250	42,307.81
Oklahoma	395,000	164,583	128,955.52
Pennsylvania	2,500	1,042	239.00
South Carolina	225,000	93,750	68,148.22
Tennessee	450,000	187,500	170,648.58
Texas	95,000	39,583	35,684.28
Virginia	115,000	47,917	37,342.68
Virgin Islands	3,500	1,458	677.18
West Virginia	80,000	33,333	22,676.01
Miscellaneous	80,200	33,417	26,317.41
Totals	\$3,358,900	\$1,399,541	\$1,149,073.59

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

**Northwest Association
Alaska, Oregon, and Washington

Hanna Suffers from Severe Allergy Attack

India—In a May letter from missionary Carlisle Hanna, he revealed that he had suffered a severe allergy attack the previous week.

"My lips puffed up until they touched my nose and chin and then out to my cheeks," writes Carlisle. "I had huge welts under both arms and around my waist and in my ears. My eyes and throat were swelling closed. I drove to Islampur at 9:00 p.m. and was able to find a doctor who gave an injection immediately. He said the swelling should go down in half an hour, but it lasted four days."

Carlisle expressed praise over the ordination of a new pastor in South India. He urged Christians to pray for those laboring in that area. He also requested prayer for the film ministry which he is having in his area of India. He is using the film "The King of Kings."

Reports indicate that the Free Will Baptist Conference in North India, held earlier this year, broke all attendance and offering records.

First Services Held in Malvin Norte Mission

Uruguay—Twenty-five people were on hand April 5 for the first Sunday morning service in the new building of the mission church in Malvin Norte, Uruguay.

According to Rick Bowling, they have averaged between 35 and 45 in Sunday school, 11 on Sunday nights, and eight for prayer meeting on Thursday evenings since they opened in the new building.

"We are still doing our street preaching and are visiting house-to-house at least 15 hours a week," writes Rick.

Agnes Smith Succumbs During Major Surgery

Nashville, Tenn.—Mrs. Agnes Smith, wife of former general director Rolla Smith, died on the operating table on May 26, 1987, at Baptist Hospital in Nashville, Tenn. Doctors had removed a large tumor from the liver and were attempting to stop the excessive bleeding when her heart failed due to the strain.

Mrs. Smith had undergone surgery two years earlier for the removal of a tumor from the colon. Her regular



Patsy Vanhook teaches the Bible lesson during the April 23-24 retreat at St. Nazaire for junior children aged 9-13.

checkups following that surgery indicated no reoccurrence of the malignancy. Discovery of this tumor in the liver came on a regular checkup just a short time before surgery.

Besides her husband, Rolla, Mrs. Smith leaves a daughter, Beth Whaley of Oklahoma City, Okla., and a granddaughter and grandson. She also is survived by two brothers and five sisters.

Funeral services were held at Donelson Free Will Baptist Church on May 29 with Dr. L. C. Johnson, R. Eugene Waddell, and Pastor Wendell Walley participating.

Mini Retreat for Juniors Held in St. Nazaire

France—A special retreat for junior children, ages 9-13, was held in St. Nazaire, France, on April 23-24, with 21 children participating.

Fourteen children attended the entire overnight retreat. Three other children came for singing and Bible lessons on Thursday afternoon and more joined the group on Friday afternoon.

Missionaries Tom McCullough, Patsy Vanhook, and Jerry Gibbs taught one Bible lesson each focusing on salvation. Patty McCullough, with the help of two teenage girls from the church, taught them songs. Barbara Gibbs was responsible for cooking and the handwork projects for the kids. Two films were also shown during the retreat.

Stephanie, a 10-year-old friend of Mark Gibbs, prayed to receive Christ as Savior.

Higashi Kindergarten Has New Building

Japan—The Higashi Tsukisamu church on the northern island of Hokkaido, Japan, has built a new kindergarten building and is operating a morning and afternoon session at the church. They call the program "Little Angels" kindergarten. The morning session has about 135 children and the afternoon session accommodates about 70 children.

According to missionaries Jim and Olena McLain, the church also operates a branch kindergarten with 50 children in the morning and 30 children in the afternoon.

Approximately 20 people are on the staff including teachers, bus drivers, etc. The pastor conducts a combined teachers' meeting/Bible study on Saturday mornings and staff members are required to attend. Some of the teachers are not Christians.

Eagleton Organizes New Program, Cites Results

Brazil—Veteran missionary Ken Eagleton reports having organized the church ministries in Araras, Brazil, by setting up nine different commissions in order to involve people according to need, ability, and choice.

Ken says this resulted in two baptismal services with a total of seven people being baptized, two first-time decisions for Christ, increased attendance, and united efforts by the church to evangelize. He is giving baptismal classes to three adults at the present.



Five couples and two single missionaries hope to depart for language study or their fields of service in July or August: (Top, left to right) Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson, Steve and Judy Lytle, Bobby and Geneva Poole; (bottom) Ron and Linda Callaway, Earnie and Jean Deeds, Alice Smith, and Arilla Wode.

The church has set up a scholarship fund to lend money to needy students who will be attending the new Bible institute program at Jaboticabal. A goal of \$4,000 was set and pledges for half of that have already been received.

Ken concluded his report by noting that the church had given \$435 per month to missions during the first four months of 1987.

Missionaries Schedule Departure for Fields

Nashville, Tenn.—Several missionaries are scheduled to depart for language study or their field of service during the months of July and August:

Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson plan to leave on July 1 for Quebec, Canada, to begin a language refresher course which will last until December. From there they will go on to the Ivory Coast.

Steve and Judy Lytle will wind up their deputational ministries in early July and hope to return to Panama on July 20.

Bobby and Geneva Poole tentatively plan to leave on July 28 to return

to Brazil after having a short furlough in the United States.

Ron and Linda Callaway have set August 10 as a target date for their return to Spain for their third term of missionary service.

Earnie and Jean Deeds plan to return to Brazil near the end of August.

Alice Smith and Arilla Wode are tentatively scheduled to depart for the Ivory Coast sometime in August.

Jalayn Martens and Glennda Leatherbury, who were scheduled to leave for the field in August or September, have been delayed due to the lack of necessary funds.

Baileys Arrive; Judy Cites Answered Prayer

Farmington, Mo.—Missionaries Ken and Judy Bailey arrived in the United States on May 30 following one term of service in Japan.

The Baileys had reported that Judy might have to have surgery in Japan prior to her departure. At the end of April she had been admitted to the hospital for a CT scan due to an abnormality which appeared in the adrenal gland. Doctors confirmed a disease called Cushing's syndrome and suspected a tumor.

In her report after arriving in the States, Judy declared that a cholesterol scan had been made at the KEIO University Hospital in Japan. Doctors stated at that time there was no longer any evidence of a tumor. She claimed answered prayer as the Christian doctor said, "The Lord must have taken it away."

Since things are not yet totally normal, Judy's Japanese doctor requested that she see an adrenal gland specialist in the States after their arrival. She had not yet consulted a specialist at press time. The Baileys requested continued prayer for Judy's full recovery.

Crowson Requests Prayer for Several in Lorient

France—Missionary Allan Crowson has requested prayer for several people in the Lorient, France, area as he labors there in the absence of Steve and Becky Riggs, Dawn Sweeney, and Charolette Tallent.

Allan noted that Jeannine Coche needs to see herself as a sinner in need of Jesus Christ as Savior, Raymond Gambier needs grace and help to grow spiritually, Madame LeFloch needs to be saved, and the people in Lorient need to have their hearts opened to the gospel.

Crowson especially asked that people pray for the church as they look for a new meeting place.

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Ivory Coast—According to missionaries Robert and Judy Bryan, the value of the dollar dropped more than 40 percent in the Ivory Coast exchange with the African franc. "That means the tank of gas which used to cost \$35 now costs \$58," says Robert. "Joseph's school bill has gone from \$203 a month to \$405."

Japan—Missionary Fred Hersey reports plans for a summer retreat in August for the two churches in the Tokyo area. He also noted that the Murooka children, mentioned in previous news reports, plan to be baptized in July.

Nashville, Tenn.—Miss Malinda Ellison, daughter of missionaries Walter and Marcia Ellison in Uruguay, has announced plans to marry Byron Ross Jr. at the New Hope Free Will Baptist Church in Joelton, Tenn., on August 22. Walter, who used to pastor the New Hope church, will perform the ceremony.

Kirksville, Mo.—Don McLain, son of missionaries Jim and Olena McLain, married Brenda Lee Anderson on April 30, 1987, at Hazel Creek Free Will Baptist Church in Kirksville, Mo.

Continued on page 14→

LATE REPORT

The *Heartbeat* staff extends apologies for not reporting CALL-ATHON results in the June issue of *Heartbeat*.

**1987 Call-a-thon Total
\$22,683.16**

—>Continued from page 13

Jim officiated at the ceremony. The couple is currently residing in Kirksville.

France—Ernest and Elaine Holland have announced the arrival of a new daughter, Leah Joy, on April 30 in Albertville, France. The baby weighed seven pounds six ounces.

Royal Oak, Mich.—Mrs. Anna E. Cronk, mother of former missionary Dan Cronk, died on May 20, 1987, at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich. She was 89 years of age and had been diagnosed as having cancer of the stomach and esophagus. She had been in intensive care for three weeks after having undergone surgery.

Brazil—According to a recent report from Brazil, the Free Will Baptist church in Jaboticabal is busy constructing a parsonage for their new pastor, Jeancarlo Ache. The young leader is scheduled to be married July 18 to Miss Flavia Collares Moura of Ribeirao Preto.

Japan—Jerry Banks ended his term of missionary service at the Kita Hiroshima church in Japan on a high note as he baptized Mrs. Takamura, the mother of Mrs. Fukamoto who was baptized around Christmas of 1985. The baptismal service was held on May 31, Jerry's last Sunday before furlough.

Panama—The Betania Free Will Baptist Church in the Panama City area of Panama has decided to purchase the building which they have been

renting for several years. The church had set up a building fund and was able to get a loan from a bank in addition to loan funds from the Panama Association of Free Will Baptist Churches. The Advance Celebration provided the association with some funds for a revolving loan fund.

Brazil—The mission church in the Ipiranga area of Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, is now under the direction of Jose Laurito, a recent graduate of the Bible institute in Ribeirao.

Candidate School Hosts Six During May 18-June 5

Nashville, Tenn.—Six missionary appointees gathered at the Free Will Baptist National Offices in Nashville, Tenn., May 18-June 5, for the second official Candidate School to be conducted by the foreign missions department.

Those attending the 1987 school include Ron and Linda Moore, Ivory Coast; Dwain and Debbie Crosby, Japan; and Jim and Evelyn Teague, Ivory Coast.

Coordinator for the school this year is Ivory Coast missionary Eddie Payne, who has worked with the foreign missions staff to lay out a three-week curriculum and schedule.

In addition to Payne, the foreign missions staff, and former missionaries LaVerne and Lorene Miley and Dan Cronk, these furloughing missionaries participated: Tom Hughes of Brazil, Steve Lytle of Panama, Dawn Sweeney and Steve and Becky Riggs of France.

Eagletons Finish French Language Study Course

France—Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Eagleton Jr. received diplomas on May 27 for completion of their language study course in Aix-en-Provence near Marseille, France. Rejane took an additional four-week intensive course in June.

"I will be dedicating the month of June to studying for my public health course," writes Kenneth. "I have been going to classes since October but have not been studying because of our language course."

The Eagletons will enroll in one of Wycliffe's Summer Institute of Linguistics in Paris from the first of July through the middle of August. Although the couple has finished the main course in French, each one will be studying with a tutor two hours a week until the end of the year when the family plans to leave for Ivory Coast, West Africa.

Dr. Eagleton intends to spend six to eight weeks at the Conservative Baptist Hospital in Ferkessedougou, Ivory Coast, prior to going to the medical station in Doropo. "I will work with their surgeons to regain my operating skills as well as to learn some of the specific techniques they are using in Africa," concluded Eagleton.

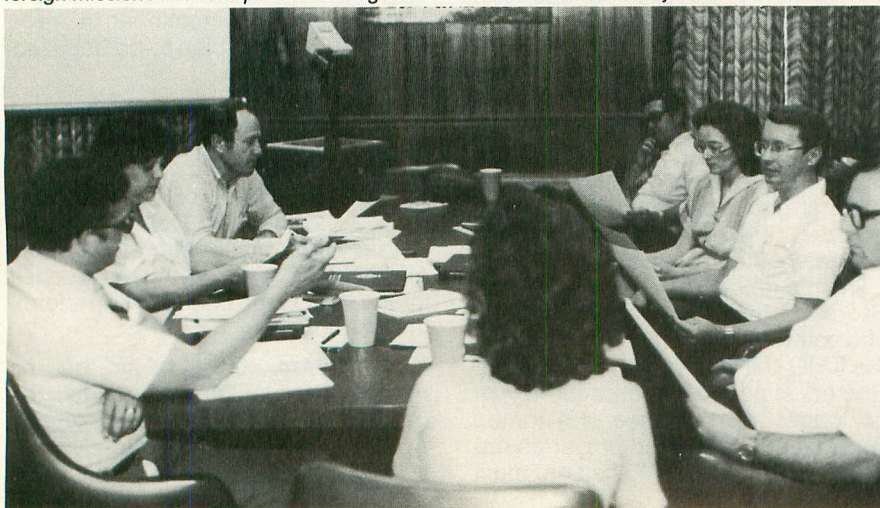
Indian Leader Wants End to Christian Evangelism

India—According to a report from Missionary News Service, Indian president Zail Singh has asked Christians to declare a "self-imposed moratorium" on their efforts to convert Hindus. The request came amid a growing hostility toward Christians by Hindu extremists in India.

Mr. Harry Genet, associate director of information for World Evangelical Fellowship, believes Hindu extremists are disturbed by "... the considerable amount of missionary work by Indian Christians among what they call the tribals, the more aboriginal inhabitants of India in the hilly, remote areas. Some of our key evangelicals have been penetrating the traditionally low-caste segments and that is upsetting the status quo."

The Christian Peoples' Welfare Society reports that eight village churches have been burned by fanatical Hindus in northeast and northwest India. Reports of assaults, bomb attacks, and raids on Christian proces-

Missionary appointees listen as treasurer-administrative assistant Earl Larson (left) goes over foreign missions financial policies during the Candidate School held May 18-June 5 in Nashville.



sions are frequent. The situation is aggravated by government policies which withhold standard aid benefits such as land, jobs, housing, and education from professing Christians while reinstating such services to those who return to Hinduism.

Rivera Church Plans to Begin Construction

Uruguay—The Rivera church has announced plans to begin construction in the very near future. "We're in desperate need of classrooms," writes Paul Robinson. "But due to the awful boost in prices in the last few months, we're going to have to reduce our original plans."

The church has approximately \$4,500 on hand, but material prices have soared in recent months. According to Paul, two men from Central Free Will Baptist Church in Royal Oak, Mich., are planning to go to Uruguay to help with this construction.

Banks Says Four Saved in Kita Hiroshima Work

Japan—"During the past few weeks we have had four people accept Christ, and last Sunday we had 32 people for worship," writes Jerry Banks from the Kita Hiroshima work in Japan. "Our pastor is very excited, to say the least, and we are very thankful to be leaving on a good note." Jerry and Janice start their furlough this month.

Janice—who recently broke her left arm just above the wrist, fractured her right elbow, and suffered a compressed fracture of a vertebrae in her back—had the cast and pin removed from the left arm on April 14.

Alice Smith Participates in W.V. Youth Emphasis

Bloomingrose, W.V.—Missionary Alice Smith reported giving her testimony on April 8 for the youth at the Toney's Branch Free Will Baptist Church in Bloomingrose, W.V. Alice spoke during the special youth emphasis and challenged the young people concerning the missionary call. The group also viewed a film.

Following Alice's message, Pastor Fleetwood Chapman gave an invitation and four people responded: two teenagers for salvation and two adults for rededication. A total of 93 people were present for the special service.

An attendance contest between the



Tom McCullough (left) prepares to baptize Edouard Michon, one of four baptized at St. Nazaire, France, on May 17. Jerry Gibbs (right) also participated in the baptismal service.

youth and adults was won by the youth.

Alice noted that the youth have pledged prayer and financial support to her work and have agreed to become involved in a "get acquainted" program with the Ivorian Christians. They will exchange letters, pictures, prayer requests, etc.

Reeves Reports Witness, Language Study Progress

Spain—"Linda and I are halfway through our time at Mangold," writes Steve Reeves from Madrid, Spain. "We are still making progress, although the days Linda has missed have hurt her some."

Steve reports having met a man named Gregorio one day while on his way to the store. The 65-year-old man is a language professor and is helping Steve with Spanish as Steve helps him with his English. Although he claims to be Catholic, he is interested in different religions. Steve requested prayer for his salvation.

Memorial Fund Helps Jerry Banks' Account

Arlington, Va.—Pastor Murray Southwell of Bloss Memorial Free Will Baptist Church in Arlington, Va., has notified the foreign missions department that at least \$500 has been given through the church in memory of Oma Ramey.

By request of the family, this money has been designated to the Jerry Banks' missionary account.

Four Baptized in May from St. Nazaire Church

France—Four people from the St. Nazaire church were baptized on Sunday, May 17, by missionaries Tom McCullough and Jerry Gibbs. The church rented an indoor swimming pool to baptize Mr. Edouard Michon, a 73-year-old artist, his wife Paule, and his sister-in-law Madelaine Hochard. Mr. Stan Forbes, a man who has attended the church for years, was also baptized.

According to missionary Jerry Gibbs, "The baptisms served as a real testimony to several unsaved family members."

The church also had a special mother-daughter banquet on Saturday, May 30, with 44 people attending including mothers, daughters, and guests. This was 13 more than attended the previous year's banquet. Four ladies attended for the first time.

A husband-wife team from the Rennes Free Will Baptist Church conducted a music program and shared testimonies.

One of the unsaved ladies said after the program, "It is hard not to believe in God after what we heard tonight."

Fifty-two people attended the church service on the following morning, and two of the new people from the previous evening were among them. "This is the third time in the last 11 weeks that we have been over our legal limit of 49," writes Tom McCullough. "Our average Sunday attendance over the last 11 weeks is 42."

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

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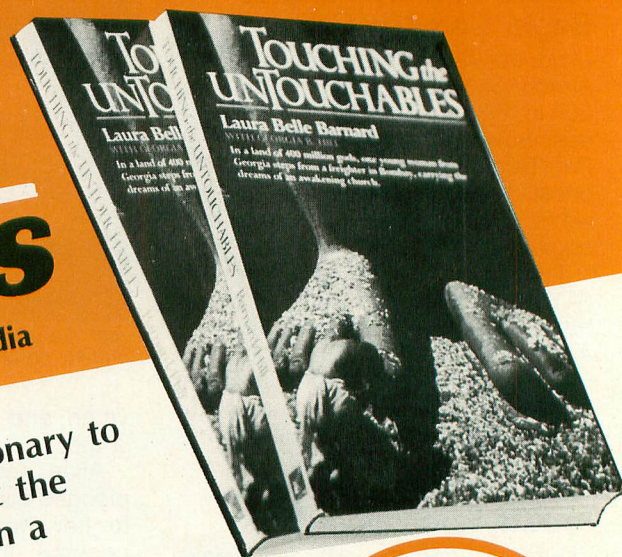
"...while I stood surrounded by these evil men, something happened that my American friends would probably describe as a hallucination....I did not feel the freedom to relate this experience to anyone in America for more than twenty years.

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