

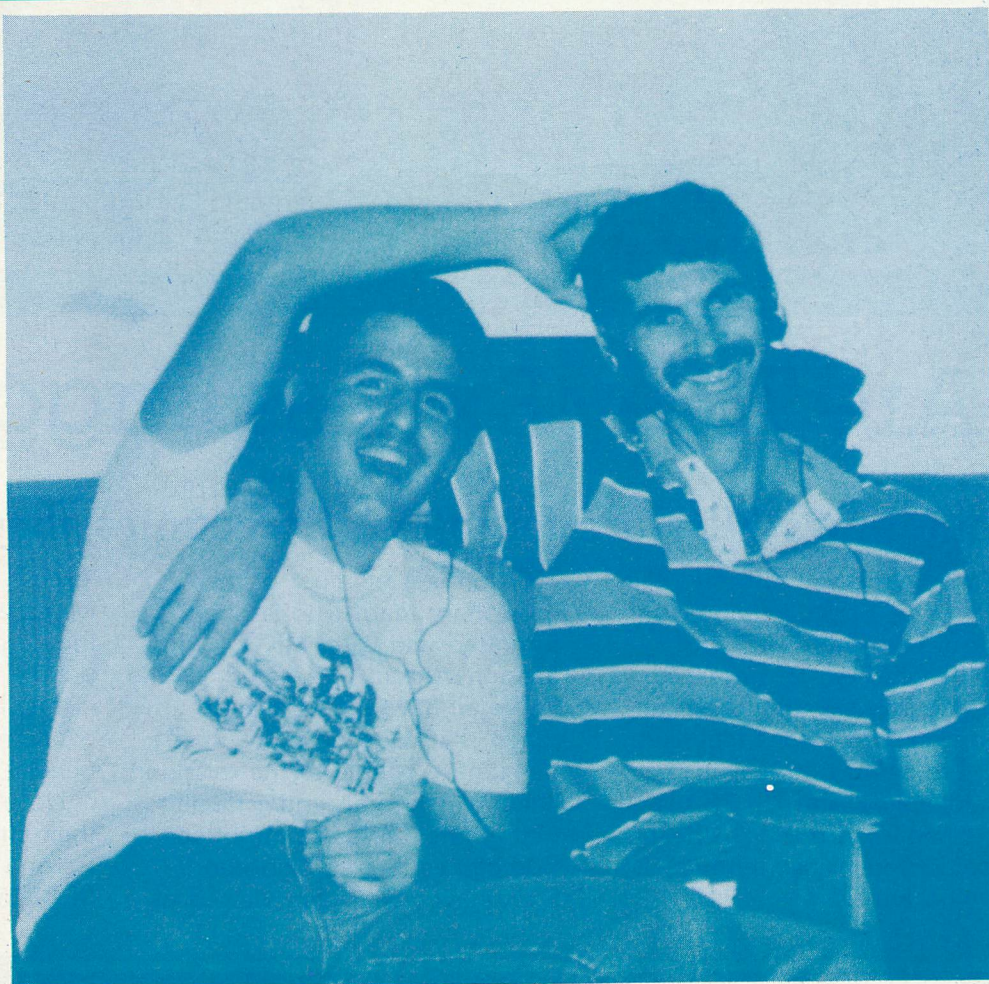
HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

APRIL 1988

Showing God at work
through Free Will Baptists
around the world

Are They
Excess
Baggage?





Are They Excess Baggage?

by Neil Gilliland

Many times MKs are forgotten. Sometimes they are ignored.

Jason lumbered into my office and plopped into the wicker chair next to the desk. "Just who or what am I?" he asked. "My passport says that I am an American. But I don't feel like one! I've spent this year in the United States, and I'm 18 years old. I know I'm not an African so could you please tell me. . . just who am I?"

Jason is a member of the missionary team who is often forgotten. He is an MK—Missionary Kid!

We all have a tendency to forget that we send more than a missionary couple to the mission field. We send an entire family. Many times MKs are forgotten. Sometimes they are ignored. They have even been viewed as

"excess baggage" by more than we care to admit. Is that what they are or are they special people with special needs? And if they are, should we be concerned about meeting these needs?

No missionaries would view their children as excess baggage. As one missionary father said, "If I win thousands to Christ and

lose my children, I've failed." Missionaries will quickly tell you their children play a vital role in their ministries.

The MK grows up in a foreign culture and adapts to it while maintaining the culture of his parents. Therefore, he is part of a third culture which consists of the two cultures and yet neither one completely.

Some MKs are grateful for their status as MKs while others are not. "I wouldn't trade my MK experience for anything!" stated an MK from Africa. Another responded, "The Lord called my parents, not me. I resent growing up on the mission field." So, growing up overseas can be either a positive or a negative experience. Whether good or bad, the experience does create certain general characteristics in MKs.

The MK, in general, feels a deep sense of restlessness. For example, Beth was filling out her college application and could not figure out her *home* address. Was it her parents' field address, furlough address, boarding school address, or mission address...? This restlessness is often accompanied by a sense of insecurity.

Renee wrote, "The best part of heaven will be never ever having to say goodbye. I'm so sick of goodbyes." The lives of MKs are filled with sad departures. They bid farewell to family and friends when leaving for the field. They say "au revoir" to friends on the field when leaving for furlough. They say "adios" to their parents and are off to boarding school. Each time is progressively more difficult and the MK feels much grief.

Furloughs are often difficult

for missionary children. They don't know the right things to say in order to be accepted by their peers. They don't know the latest "lingo" (even in Christian circles). On top of that, their clothes sometimes are a bit behind the times.

The MK finds it difficult to make the transition from the field to the U.S. youth culture, even in our church youth groups. The value system of American youth and that of the MK usually are in sharp contrast. Most American young people place their values in things, whereas the values of MKs center on people.

"My passport says I'm an American. But I don't feel like one!"

All is not negative, however. The MK has many advantages and resources from which to draw. Most missionary children have strong language skills, and many speak at least two languages. I know some who speak four and five. So, while the MK may feel a lack of identity, he is very adept at functioning in a cross-cultural setting.

The world view of MKs is larger than their American counterparts. They have visited many places in the world. Some have seen the starving children of Africa and India, and the teeming masses in Tokyo and Sao Paulo. They have eaten exotic foods and have stood in front of such places as the Eiffel Tower.

Their God-view is larger. They have been on the cutting edge of Christianity. They have

ministered in Lobi villages, shared their faith on the streets of Montevideo, and handed out tracts in St. Nazaire and Nantes. They have seen God change the lives of Catholics, Animists, Hindus, and Muslims. And as a result of this broader God-view and world view, MKs are generally more mature than their peers as they are growing up.

Certainly MKs have many advantages and disadvantages. And they have many needs. What is our responsibility to meet these needs? How should we respond?

First, we can pray. Each time you pray for a missionary family, remember each of their children by name. Second, encourage MKs through letters and cards on birthdays and holidays. Third, send an occasional "care package" to those MKs in college in the U.S. Fourth, if you know MKs in your area, invite them for a meal or simply give them a call and let them know you care.

Don't let our MKs be forgotten or appear to be excess baggage. Make them an integral part of our mission family.

Neil Gilliland is on furlough from Ivory Coast. He and his wife, Sheila, have served five years as dorm parents for MKs at Ivory Coast Academy in Bouake, Ivory.

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Remember, Missionary Kids Aren't Called!

by Jeff Turnbough

"Why can't I live in America? I'm an American,"
Matthew blurted.

It was 3:30 a.m. when my nine-year-old son leaned over to share his heart with me. We couldn't sleep very well; we had just made the plane trip from Nashville to Cincinnati to New York and on to Madrid the day before. It would be many more days before our bodies had made the seven-hour adjustment.

"Why can't I live in America? I'm an American," Matthew blurted. "The Spaniards live in Spain! The French live in France! Why can't I live in America?" came his heartfelt confessions.

Naturally, I went straight to my calling. "Son, you know that Daddy and Mommy feel that God wants us to serve Him here in Spain." That seems pretty logical to me, spiritually speaking. It didn't seem to ease his sadness.

Maybe a little background would be helpful to the reader.

We had just spent five weeks in the United States because Susan, Matthew's mommy and my wife, had to have surgery. Naturally, we stayed with grandparents the whole time. It was the first time in six years that my whole family had been together. We were also privileged to meet at a motel and spend a few hours together Christmas day.

That might not have meant very much to some people, but in that early morning hour I learned it meant a lot to a sensitive little boy. As a veteran *MK, he had discovered what it meant to be separated from those he loved by a long geographical distance and for a long period of time. In a truly Christian tradition, family just happens to be very important to him.

Susan and Matthew's little sister had stayed behind in the States because of complications from the surgery. Matthew and I had come back to Spain since I had to tend to the church and he needed to return to school. We were all alone, a long way from all of our other family members. I began to sense the same lonely feeling.

No matter how much convincing I might attempt, it would never be enough.

I remembered the Apostle Paul's words to the Philippians: "...whatsoever things are good...lovely...think on these things." That had to be the answer for Matthew, and now for me. Little did I know that I was about to be taught a lesson in values.

In order to cheer Matthew up, I quickly said, "You need to think about something good, something lovely! That's what Paul said to do! That'll cheer you up!" In between all the tears, he replied, "The best thing I can think of is being with Grandpa and Grandma. And when I think of them, it makes me sad. I think I'm sadder than I have ever been in my life."

Automatically, I thought of all of the Christmas presents he had received in the States. "What about all of those neat Christmas presents?" I asked. "I'd give every one of them and every toy I've got if I could just be in America with my Grandpas and Grandmas."

"What about Mitsi?" I replied. "You never would have obtained

this precious little puppy dog if you hadn't been in Spain."

"I would have picked out another little puppy there, and I would have called her Mitsi."

Suddenly, it dawned on me. Matthew just does not have the calling that I have! It is not the same. No matter how much convincing I might attempt, it would never be enough. Why? Frankly, because I'm the one who has been called of God to live across the ocean, not my son. Once again, I had to remember to be understanding. Missionary kids are not called. Their parents are!

My wife and I, under the Lord's leadership, had decided it best to go to the U.S. for Susan's surgery. We had also decided it was best for Matthew and me to return to Spain alone. Naturally, kids just have to go along for the ride.

A lot of people mistakenly say and think, "Oh, kids are tougher than you think. They can handle it!" Are they? Can they? Or, is it just possible that kids go through extremely difficult times of transition but are incapable of expressing those terrible feelings in adult terms? I tend to believe the latter.

Maybe my son is just now reaching the age when he can begin to express a little bit of what is going on in his tiny head and heart. He was able to communicate well enough to effectively defeat all of my adult responses. The only thing left for me was to join in and have a good cry with him.

One thing is certain. I feel a lot closer to Matthew now, and I'll be a lot more sensitive to his needs in the future.

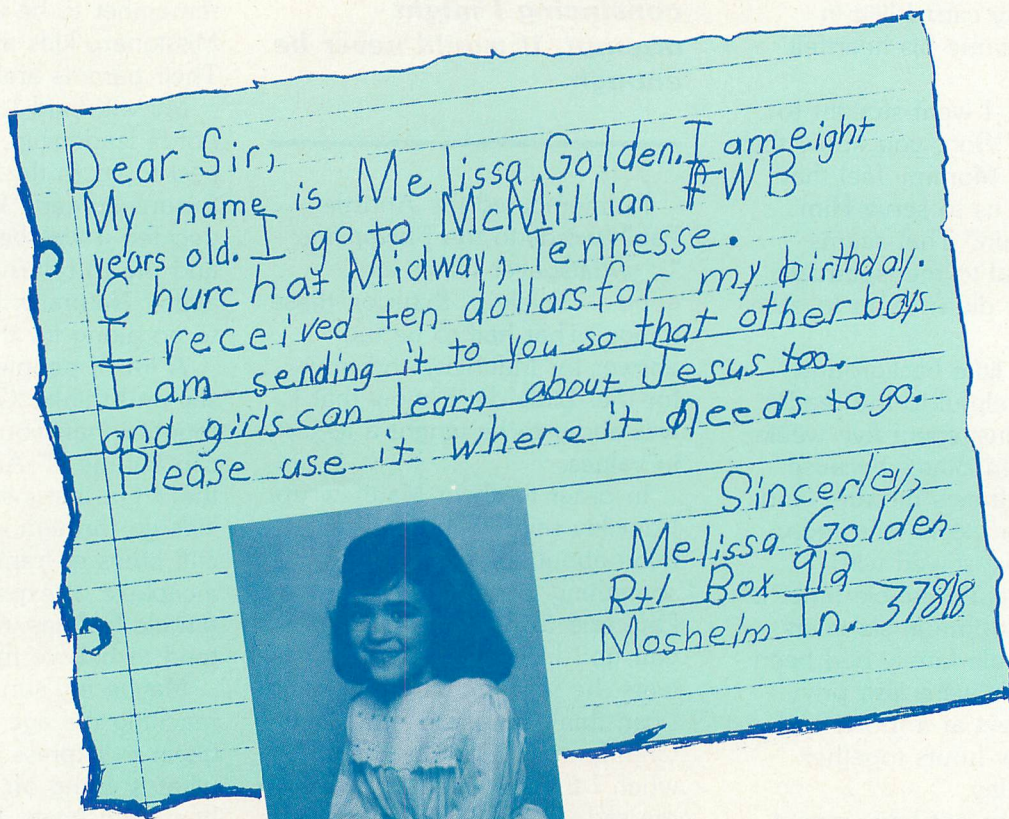
Jeff Turnbough is a second-term missionary to Villalba, Spain.

*Missionary Kid

An Old Tradition with a New Emphasis

by Fred Warner
Director of Church Ministries

We want every church and individual to give a sacrificial offering on Foreign Missions Sunday.



I like big things! I especially like big days, special days. And one day that has been special to me for years is "Foreign Missions Sunday."

Several years ago when I pastored First Free Will Baptist Church in Russellville, Ark., I

remember having our first "Foreign Mission Sunday." We had determined to give our total offering to foreign missions and that first FMS offering totaled

\$330. The second year we received \$500. Then, as anticipation grew and people started looking forward to that special day, the offerings increased year by year. When I left in 1981, the offering was \$3,800. And since then, the church has reached the \$5,000 mark.

Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church in Kingsport, Tenn., always has at least one special day per year to push foreign missions. Usually it falls on Easter Sunday. But the planning and promoting is done long before the special day. Pastor Winston Sweeney has consistently reported offerings of several thousand dollars. Their highest offering to date came in 1986 when the church gave over \$10,000 to foreign missions.

Traditionally, Free Will Baptists have observed April as "Foreign Missions Month" across the denomination. For a number of years the emphasis has been placed on Call-a-thon Sunday when churches have responded by telephoning the foreign missions office to report their special missions gifts.

Pastor Winston Sweeney has consistently reported offerings of several thousand dollars.

This year we want to make the main emphasis a little different. We want to feature the big day concept. We want churches to make a "big splash" for needy missionary accounts.

We are encouraging churches to observe the entire month of April as Foreign Missions Month with every Sunday a day to highlight some aspect of foreign missions ministry. Then, we want every church to make a special effort to give a substantial, sacrificial offering on April 24, 1988. We are labeling this day "Foreign Missions Sunday."

Many organizations and denominations annually have a special emphasis on one Sunday or at a particular time. They make a gigantic impact as they make a concentrated effort to get a large offering on that day. Southern Baptists, for example, have an annual Lottie Moon Offering. Through this event they raised over 60 million dollars for missions during their 1986-87 fiscal year.

Many Free Will Baptist pastors have effectively used the "big offering" approach on Foreign Missions Sunday. I believe such an effort by enough concerned Free Will Baptists can cut down on missionary deputational expenses. I feel sure it can help to diminish the number of appeals being made by the foreign missions department and can be a tremendous blessing to the local church.

Let me share a number of ways through which a pastor might build the interest and get the involvement of his congregation in a "Foreign Missions Sunday":

- (1) Preach a series of "missions" messages during the month.
- (2) Order a video tape, filmstrip, or slide presentation from Foreign Missions, or rent a 16mm film to use during the month (maybe something different for each Sunday).
- (3) Use a Wednesday evening to have a serious quiz on how much people know about Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions and missionaries in particular.
- (4) Form a missionary prayer band on Wednesday or Sunday evening and call Hotline for up-to-date prayer requests: (615) 361-5005.
- (5) Invite a missionary or foreign missions staff member to

challenge your church during at least one Sunday in April.

(6) Plan an international banquet with a special speaker and serve the group international foods.

Southern Baptists raised over 60 million dollars through their Lottie Moon Offering.

(7) Ask Sunday school teachers to tell missions stories and teach missions lessons during the month.

(8) Challenge young people to make themselves available to the Lord for His work.

(9) Promote missions giving by providing missionary banks or quarter folders for use in the family or home. (Quarter folders are available upon request from Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.)

(10) Order printed foreign missions materials and prepare packets to hand out, or prepare a literature display so interested people might take home valuable information for their prayer time. (Also available from Foreign Missions.)

Since "Foreign Missions Sunday" will fall on the last Sunday of the month, let me encourage you to report your offering through "Call-a-thon" which is traditionally held on that Sunday: dial (615) 361-1010 between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in your time zone. Or you may simply send your offering, designated "Foreign Missions Sunday," through normal channels to foreign missions.



Kawasaki baptizes a convert.



Pastor Kawasaki (right) and Dale Bishop (center) share in the groundbreaking service for the new Ai No Sato building.

From the Brink of Eternity... by Janice Banks

On his hospital bed Toshikazu came to grips with his spiritual condition.

What was it about the man that brought tears to our eyes? As we bade him farewell that day in June of 1987, we bypassed the typical Japanese bow and warmly shook his hand.

Leaving for furlough caused us to realize how much we had come to love and respect Toshikazu Kawasaki even though we had known him only two short years. But during that time we had recognized him to be a special man: a man called by God and ultimately an answer to our prayer!

We were especially moved because God had sent Kawasaki to lead the Kita Hiroshima Chapel Free Will Baptist Church which we had started in a suburb of Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan.

The members of Kita Hiroshima Chapel had prayed with us for several years that God would give them a Japanese pastor. With none of our young men preparing for the ministry, we thought we'd have a much longer wait. But, the time was right, and one Sunday in the spring of 1984, Kawasaki Sensei (the title for teachers) was our guest preacher. He had been introduced to us by Pastor Sugitani of our church in Bihoro, but we knew nothing about him or his background.

A few days after our initial introduction, Jerry met with Kawasaki and talked with him

about his life and beliefs. At that time he was leading a small group of believers in his home and was planning to move to a new area of Sapporo (Ai No Sato) to start a church. He was also making plans for a trip down south where he would marry a young Christian woman. As an independent, self-supporting minister, he was considering a part-time job in order to support his new wife and church ministry.

After much prayer and discussion with the church, Jerry asked Brother Kawasaki to work as his assistant. This was the beginning of a ministry that would lead him into the pastorate of two churches (Kita Hiroshima and Ai No Sato) and a leadership position among Free Will Baptists in Japan.

Pastor Kawasaki is a compassionate man with the

ability to identify with others and share in their suffering. This ability grew within him as he suffered through seven long years of hospitalization during his early twenties. A chronic kidney condition left him hopelessly dependent upon medical care, and the severity of his illness raised doubts that he would ever be dismissed from the hospital.

It was on his hospital bed, while on the brink of eternity, that Toshikazu came to grips with his spiritual condition. He had made a profession of faith and was baptized when he was 14, but during his youth he had turned away from God. Alcohol, women, and dancing became the focus of his life. One night in the hospital he had a dream about the pastor who had taught him during his early Sunday school days. It was a simple dream, but through it God spoke to him, and he responded.

Pastor Kawasaki said his seven-year hospitalization was his greatest schooling. It was there that he really met Christ.

The next day Kawasaki pulled out the Bible his mother had brought to the hospital. For the first time in his life the Bible really began to speak to him. It was no longer just a boring history book, but it became the living Word of God, speaking to a needy man. Day after day he searched the Scriptures, finding comfort, encouragement, joy, and hope. The Bible became his constant companion, as Jesus Christ became his Lord in June

of 1965.

No longer worried about his future, Toshikazu fully expected to go directly to heaven from his hospital bed. But God had other plans for him and began his preparation by sending various pastors and Christian leaders to teach and guide him. During this time he became acquainted with several denominations and he began to wonder where he could best serve the Lord.

In 1972 Toshikazu was released from the hospital. He wasn't prepared for the dismissal, so he didn't know what to do. He prayed and asked for guidance. He was weak and had no work experience. In answer to his prayer he sensed God speaking to him, "In your weak body, show forth the glory of God."

Kawasaki wondered what he could do, and then he felt the Lord directing him to distribute tracts. His friends thought he was crazy to begin such a venture, especially in Hokkaido where the winters are so severe. But, in obedience to God's command he went, saying that since God had instructed him to distribute tracts, his health and well-being would be God's responsibility.

From those early days of door-to-door tract distribution, God led Toshikazu into full-time ministry. He went to Kansai Bible School in 1975 and graduated in 1979. He then returned to Hokkaido where he began a church in his home. Then, in 1986 he became a Free Will Baptist pastor.

When asked about his educational preparation for the ministry, Pastor Kawasaki said that his long seven-year hospitalization was his greatest

schooling. It was there that he really met Christ and found hope when all seemed hopeless. It was there that he submitted to the direction of Christ which led him to his present place of leadership among the Free Will Baptist churches in Japan.

Kawasaki Sensei has to be careful not to get overextended, because when he gets tired his kidney condition flares up. That is a serious problem for the young pastor because he is a hard-working, dedicated man of God. Leading two growing congregations, as well as working with the missionaries in other denominational ministries, keeps Toshikazu extremely busy.

For the first time in his life the Bible really began to speak to him.

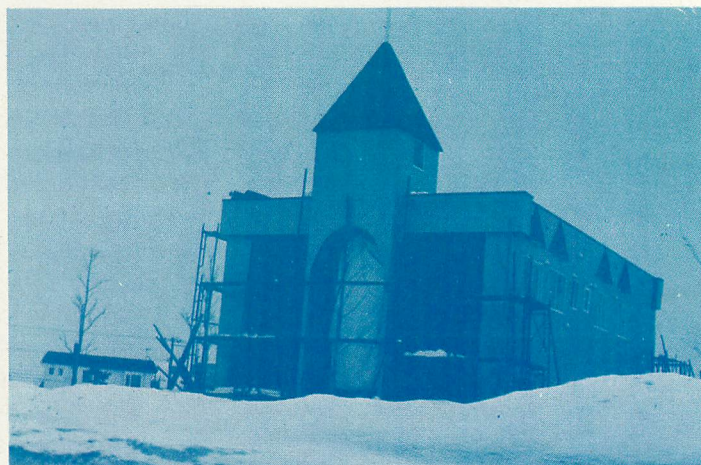
Pastor Kawasaki has expressed gratitude for Judy Smith and her share in the ministry at Kita Hiroshima. He says he is anxiously awaiting the fall arrival of Don and Ruth McDonald who will join him in the Ai No Sato ministry. A strong believer in teamwork, Kawasaki indicated he hopes to continue working with the missionaries and church leaders. To him, it is like a "dream come true."

What is so special about Toshikazu Kawasaki? He's our brother! A man sent from God! An answer to prayer! And, he has become a true Free Will Baptist pastor!

Janice Banks serves with her husband, missionary Jerry Banks, in a suburb of Sapporo on the northern island of Hokkaido, Japan. They founded the Kita Hiroshima Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. The Banks are on furlough but plan to return to Japan later this year.



ADVANCING in Japan



Construction on the Ai No Sato Free Will Baptist Church continued in spite of the snow and very cold weather.

Special Gifts to Missions

These individuals gave special gifts in December, January, and February in memory or in honor of friends or loved ones:

| Donor | In Memory of |
|--|-------------------|
| Esther Mayo Ada, Okla. | Ruth Ragsdale |
| Vail Hardman Royal Oak, Mich. | Tom Smotherman |
| Earl E. Cunningham Sterling Heights, Mich. | Tom Smotherman |
| Central FWB Church Royal Oak, Mich. | Tom Smotherman |
| R. Eugene Waddell Nashville, Tenn. | Lula Hunter |
| Herbert Waid Moultrie, Ga. | Mrs. Josie Franks |
| Russell and Tina Ray Moore, Okla. | Joyce Ray |
| Howard Price Statesboro, Ga. | Agnes Smith |
| Arthur Norris Benton, Ill. | Florence Norris |
| Bob Byrd Sweetwater, Tenn. | Opel Luther |
| Nola Cunningham Mt. Clemens, Mich. | Tom Smotherman |
| Finis and Charlie Mae Bowman Nashville, Tenn. | Marge Miller |
| Mr. and Mrs. Earl Brakefield St. Louis, Mo. | Loren Brakefield |
| Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Johnson Mt. Clemens, Mich. | Mrs. Mary Abed |
| Mr. and Mrs. Repsie Johnson Smithville, Tenn. | Mrs. Mary Abed |
| Hulene Bowden Owasso, Okla. | Pearl Woodard |
| Solid Rock S.S. Class Donelson FWB Church Nashville, Tenn. | Marge Miller |

| Donor | In Honor of |
|--|------------------|
| Ed and Sherry Dotson Waverly, Tenn. | Violet Fambrough |

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 _____

Assisting new congregations through the establishing of revolving church loan funds is one of our four Advance goals.

Four men—Jim Vallance, Master's Men general director; pastors Galen Dunbar and Robert Trimble, foreign missions board members; and James Orr, Master's Men board member—went to Sapporo, Japan, on February 22 to assist the Ai No Sato Free Will Baptist Church in constructing the new church building.

Jim Vallance reported from Japan in February that the four men were doing electrical work and interior finish carpentry on the structure. Pastor Kawasaki told the men their work and volunteer labor by Japanese Christians would save the church over \$40,000.

An Advance contribution of \$20,000 to the Revolving Church Loan Fund has helped make this building possible.

The four builders did their work in very cold circumstances as snow outside was said to be piled four feet high in places and some days it snowed 10 to 12 inches. But the men labored faithfully and returned to the U.S. on March 14.

"Well done, brethren. Welcome home!"

God has marvelously blessed the congregation at St. Nazaire, France. New converts, maturing

and France



Jimmy Aldridge, Advance coordinator (left), talks with the group preparing to board a plane for St. Nazaire, France: (left to right) Fred Haney, Dan Farber, Dan Harmon, Mrs. Haney, Tommy Sanders, and missionary Jerry Gibbs.

believers, and many other interested people have been attending services. These elements have contributed to the growth of the church and it has outgrown the rented storefront building used up until the present.

Some time ago God gave the church the opportunity to buy an excellent lot on a main street in the city. And the congregation was able to swing the deal.

As plans were made for constructing a building, God laid it on the hearts of four Free Will Baptist laymen from Tennessee to travel to France to help the church finish the building.

Tommy Sanders, Dan Farber, Dan Harmon, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Haney, accompanied by missionary Jerry Gibbs, left for France on March 10. They planned to do the electrical wiring, finish the plumbing, and do the interior finish work on the new building. Their return to the U.S. was scheduled for April 5.

"Bon voyage, brethren"

Advance has sent \$27,880 to the Revolving Church Loan Fund in France for use in construction of this building.

Commitments from Advance of \$28,000 have been made to the Ai No Sato church and \$42,000 to the St. Nazaire church.

Gifts to Advance help make these breakthroughs possible.

Financial Summary

Through February 29

\$ubstance

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Total income for February | \$ 224,049.09 |
| Total income through February | 449,798.43 |
| Total disbursements through February | 455,903.00 |
| Projected income through February | 531,004.00 |
| Total 1988 Budget | \$3,186,036.00 |
| Advance receipts through February | \$ 25,031.05 |
| 1988 ADVANCE Budget | \$ 150,000.00 |

\$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

| | | | |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Bishop | \$ 4,362.45 | McCullough | \$ 7,391.19 |
| Bryan | 1,192.76 | Nichols | 8,992.22 |
| Combs | 3,122.58 | Owen | 6,676.93 |
| Crosby | 10,890.73 | Payne | 5,106.28 |
| Crowson | 5,317.13 | Richards | 7,107.82 |
| Ellison | 7,375.55 | Smith, J. | 1,135.30 |
| Filkins | 2,753.79 | Sparks | 4,957.32 |
| Franks | 1,688.50 | Sturgill | 12,056.82 |
| Gilliland | 2,302.63 | Turnbough | 7,242.15 |
| Hanna | 7,460.55 | Wiley | 3,319.90 |
| Hersey | 6,270.72 | General Fund | 37,952.98 |
| Total | | | \$154,676.30 |

State Goals—1988

| State | Goal 1988 | Goal Through February | Contributions Through February |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Alabama | \$ 195,000 | \$ 32,500 | \$ 32,653.07 |
| Arizona | 4,500 | 750 | 400.60 |
| Arkansas | 168,000 | 28,000 | 23,281.13 |
| California | 54,000 | 9,000 | 7,176.19 |
| Colorado | 3,500 | 583 | 190.00 |
| Florida | 100,000 | 16,667 | 13,631.25 |
| Georgia | 120,000 | 20,000 | 22,233.47 |
| Hawaii | 2,500 | 417 | 475.00 |
| Idaho | 750 | 125 | 175.92 |
| Illinois | 101,000 | 16,833 | 13,860.81 |
| Indiana | 36,000 | 6,000 | 4,708.13 |
| Iowa | 1,500 | 250 | 169.00 |
| Kansas | 14,000 | 2,333 | 2,039.21 |
| Kentucky | 80,000 | 13,333 | 8,842.03 |
| Louisiana | 600 | 100 | .00 |
| Maryland | 15,000 | 2,500 | 2,255.39 |
| Michigan | 141,000 | 23,500 | 17,710.31 |
| Mississippi | 72,000 | 12,000 | 6,566.58 |
| Missouri | 215,000 | 35,833 | 28,461.72 |
| Montana | 1,000 | 167 | 20.00 |
| Nevada | 1,000 | 167 | 105.00 |
| New Mexico | 500 | 83 | 20.56 |
| *Northeast Assn. | 7,000 | 1,167 | 466.30 |
| **Northwest Assn. | 5,700 | 950 | 1,072.50 |
| North Carolina | 385,000 | 64,167 | 55,450.59 |
| Ohio | 125,000 | 20,833 | 16,264.69 |
| Oklahoma | 378,000 | 63,000 | 51,275.40 |
| Pennsylvania | 2,000 | 333 | 180.00 |
| South Carolina | 200,000 | 33,333 | 19,441.68 |
| Tennessee | 415,000 | 69,167 | 61,483.27 |
| Texas | 97,000 | 16,167 | 19,816.94 |
| Virginia | 111,000 | 18,500 | 17,818.59 |
| Virgin Islands | 3,000 | 500 | 265.00 |
| West Virginia | 75,000 | 12,500 | 10,397.24 |
| Miscellaneous | 55,486 | 9,248 | 10,890.86 |
| Totals | \$3,186,036 | \$531,006 | \$449,798.43 |

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

**Northwest Association
Alaska, Oregon, and Washington

They Paved The Way



LaVerne and Lorene Miley



Eula Mae Martin Fornel

DR. LAVERNE and LORENE MILEY were impressed toward foreign missions through chapel speakers while LaVerne was furthering his education at Northern Baptist Seminary in 1950. Later, as a faculty member at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., LaVerne was led to consider medical missions when he heard pioneer missionary Laura Belle Barnard speak.

In 1955 Miley entered medical school and graduated in 1958. Following LaVerne's year of internship and six months of surgical residency, the Mileys left in 1960 for language study in France.

Dr. Miley made a survey trip to Ivory Coast during that first year and determined the area for his and Lorene's future ministry. The medical work was started in Doropo in 1962 as they constructed a building and opened a clinic to treat the Lobis in the area. Later, a hospital was constructed.

The Mileys started the Doropo Free Will Baptist Church and traveled to many surrounding villages to preach the gospel. God greatly used the medical ministry as a means to open the Lobi villages to the message of Christ.

After 19 years of labor in Ivory Coast, Dr. and Mrs. Miley returned to the United States in 1979 and submitted their resignation. "I must admit that I was perplexed; I felt confused. How could we leave a people to whom we had become so attached, a work into which we had poured so much of our life and energy?" stated Dr. Miley concerning God's dealing with him about his future ministry. He became assured of the Lord's direction to return to a stateside ministry.

LaVerne returned to a teaching ministry at FWBBC and continues to teach there today.

Lorene continues her missions influence through her work with the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention as she edits the *Co-Laborer* magazine.

The Mileys have two children who have served on the mission field. Lynn and his family have served in Ivory Coast and France but they are currently in the United States due to their children's educational needs. Lynette (Miley) Morgan is serving with her husband, Clint, at Bouna, Ivory Coast. One other son, Larry, resides in Sedalia, Mo. LaVerne and Lorene have 10 grandchildren.

EULA MAE MARTIN FORNEL is a North Carolinian by birth. But after her conversion, during her twenties, Eula began to sense that God wanted her to do something special. Finally, she came to realize that the Lord wanted her to "carry the gospel to those who had never heard."

Miss Martin realized she needed education, so she entered Free Will Baptist Bible College and later took nursing at McLeod Infirmary School of Nursing in Florence, S.C. She was appointed to missionary status in April of 1958.

When Eula went to Brazil in 1959, she had a goal to advance the gospel through her medical skills. Following language study she began working in a clinic in conjunction with the First Free Will Baptist Church in Campinas, Brazil. God used her to touch many needy lives during that time.

Later, Eula Mae moved to Ribeirao Preto and began working with the church which had been started by missionaries Bobby and Geneva Poole. In 1968 she married Helio Fornel, a Brazilian Christian of Italian descent. Submitting her resignation from missionary service, Eula began teaching English in a private school, Cultura Brasileira Estados Unidos, in Ribeirao Preto.

The Fornels and their son, Joni, moved to Jaboticabal in 1983 to help in attending the property at Evangelandia, site of youth camps and the new central Bible college.

In 1987 the couple returned to Ribeirao Preto where Eula is Coordinator of Courses at the private school where she taught for 18 years.

Bunch Reports Six People Baptized at Parita Work

Panama—Six people were baptized in mid-February at the Parita work in Panama. According to missionary Stan Bunch, the church had a revival during the week of February 22 and "had good services."

Bunch indicated that the political problems were influential in causing people to think more about their relationship to God. "A big crowd attended the last services of the week," Stan concluded.

One Baptized at Kita Hiroshima in February

Japan—Miss Tomoko Takahashi, a recent convert, was baptized at Kita Hiroshima Chapel in northern Japan on February 28. Miss Takahashi is a nurse.

"Our church has really been experiencing God's blessings," writes Judy Smith. "We've seen a number of people come to the Lord in 1987, and just yesterday (February 14) one of the junior high boys in my Sunday school class accepted the Lord."

Miss Smith also expressed praise that since Keichi Kimura became a Christian last summer, he has been responsible for bringing to the Lord three other young adults in their twenties.

West Says Two-fold Task Makes Doropo Load Heavy

Ivory Coast—"After one year here on the field, I can now begin to realize what I have to do," wrote Robert West in January from Doropo, Ivory Coast. Robert is involved in maintenance for the mission station and in preaching and teaching the gospel.

"The biggest job is to keep the breakdowns fixed: leaking roofs, termite-eaten walls, exhaust systems torn out from under a car or truck by water holes and rocks in the road, and generator repairs," Robert declared. He also helps build churches, teaches classes, preaches messages, visits villages, picks up sick people, and will be finishing up a surgical block for the hospital.

West noted that he had started a young people's class in one village. The class increased from nine people the first of September to 31 by late January.

Robert reported that the Doropo



Youth from the San Francisco FWB Church in Cuba present a gift to General Director R. Eugene Waddell.

church has another extension which is averaging approximately 92 in attendance each Sunday. The mother church averages approximately 135 people per Sunday.

First Anniversary Plans Made for Malvin Norte

Uruguay—Missionary Rick Bowling announced that April 3 would mark the first anniversary of the Malvin Norte work in a suburb of Montevideo, Uruguay. To celebrate the occasion, the group plans to show two films outside the church and have two ex-convicts give their testimonies. The services are scheduled for April 7-10 and are to be geared especially toward young people.

Waddell, Lytle Visit Cuba, Note Dedication

Cuba—R. Eugene Waddell, general director of foreign missions, and Panama missionary Steve Lytle spent nearly two weeks in Cuba during February and March. The two visited churches, spent time with Christians, and attended the annual meeting of the Cuban Association of Free Will Baptist Churches.

Lytle preceded Waddell, arriving in Cuba on February 22, while the general director arrived on February 24. Steve did the translating as the two ministered during the association meeting at the Cedars of Lebanon Institute.

"I was most impressed by the commitment and dedication of the Cuban Christians," says Eugene. "Although living under very difficult

economic circumstances, people sacrificed to be able to attend the association. They sang and praised the Lord so enthusiastically that my heart was really stirred."

Mr. Waddell returned to Nashville, Tenn., on March 4 while Steve remained in Cuba until March 7, when he returned to Panama.

Several Missionaries to Arrive, Others to Leave

Nashville, Tenn.—Ten couples and one single missionary are scheduled for furlough sometime this summer and several others hope to depart for their fields of service by the end of summer. These are scheduled to arrive:

Dave and Pat Franks will be arriving in the United States from Brazil on April 15.

Marie Hanna arrived from India on March 14. Her father, Mr. Chester Wright, is very ill in a Missouri hospital. Carlisle is to land around May 23. They will be on a three-month furlough due to their permit of re-entry.

Miss Lynn Midgett in Spain proposes to come to the States sometime in May, and Darrel and Lila Nichols and Mark and Donna Daniel plan to arrive from Ivory Coast in May.

Dennis and Carol Teague plan to begin a short furlough around June 1.

Rick and Linda Bowling of Uruguay, Ken and Marvis Eagleton of Brazil, and Dennis and Trena Owen of Spain all plan to arrive in late June or sometime in July. The Bowlings are coming home eight months early due to Rick's need for gallbladder surgery and the need for additional monthly

Continued on page 14→

→Continued from page 13

support. The Owens are arriving seven months early in order to rebuild their monthly support.

Sherwood and Vada Lee are scheduled to arrive from Ivory Coast in July or August.

Missionaries hoping to leave for their mission fields if finances are adequate include John and Pansy Murray, Steve and Becky Riggs, and Miss Charolette Tallent—all headed for France sometime in May.

Looking to depart in June are Robert and Judy Bryan going to Ivory Coast, and Jerry and Janice Banks and Ken and Judy Bailey returning to Japan.

Walter and Marcia Ellison hope to return to Uruguay in late July or early August, but their financial needs are great at the present. Ron and Linda Moore plan to leave in August for French language study in France before proceeding to the Ivory Coast.

Jim and Olena McLain also hope to return to Japan at least by late summer but no date has been projected for their departure since they need much more financial support.

Bishop Reports Death of 11-Year-Old Girl

Japan—Missionary Dale Bishop reported the death of an 11-year-old girl from the Koinonia Free Will Baptist Church in Nopporo, Japan. The girl had been in poor health since birth but developed a fever and died on February 24. The funeral was held in the church.

According to Dale, the girl was a niece to Peter Fuji who had attended Free Will Baptist Bible College many years earlier. Peter died in a boating accident in Japan in July of 1976. The girl's parents are Christians and are very much involved in the church.

Reeves Preaches Monthly in Spanish at Mostoles

Spain—According to Steve Reeves, Ron Callaway has given him the opportunity to preach once a month during the Thursday night Bible study of the Mostoles Free Will Baptist Church in Spain. This is to help Reeves in his language ability as well as enable him to have a ministry.

Steve and his wife, Linda, who are studying Spanish in the University of Madrid, have been attending and working in the Mostoles church where



Workers seek to smooth the cement for the floor of the new church building at St. Nazaire, France, in preparation for construction. Four men went from Tennessee to France in March to do inside work on the building (see ADVANCING on page 10).

the Callaways are laboring. They will be moving to Villalba following termination of their formal language study. Plans called for them to move to the Villalba area sometime during March or April.

Steve and Linda were thrilled recently when Gregorio, a man whom they had helped with English study, visited the Mostoles church. "During the service the Spirit spoke to his heart and afterwards he told Ron he had been 'drawn into the service.'"

Aldridges Return to U.S. After Ivory Coast Stay

Nashville, Tenn.—Overseas Secretary Jimmy Aldridge and his wife, Janie, arrived in the United States on March 1 following several months of ministry in Bondoukou, Ivory Coast. The Aldridges had been requested by the field council to help out during the absence of field chairman Jerry Pinkerton.

"How God did bless during our five and one-half months in Ivory Coast!" says Jimmy. "We witnessed nine conversions in the Bondoukou church and youth ministry. Seventeen people are now preparing for baptism. Attendance jumped from the seventies to average 131 for the time we were there. Praise God for His blessings!"

Aldridge also noted that a youth center was started across the main street from the high school and junior college. He pointed out that the new church building at Bondoukou is finished except for the floor.

Jimmy also helped for a short time in the Bible institute program. In addition

to this, he ministered in nine village churches during the time he and Janie were in Bondoukou.

Hughes Reports Good Progress in Uberlandia

Brazil—A report from missionary Nancy Hughes indicated the church in Uberlandia is progressing well. Attendance has been averaging approximately 100 on Sunday morning and 80 on Sunday nights.

Nancy expressed praise that Simone, a young girl in the church, had decided to attend the Bible institute in Jaboticabal. The church is helping Simone monthly and several have made faith-promise commitments to support her.

A young lady was saved after prayer meeting on February 24.

Hollands Interrupt Term to Secure Needed Support

Nashville, Tenn.—Ernest and Elaine Holland have been requested to interrupt their term of missionary service in order to secure support for a rapidly falling account. The couple is expected to arrive in the United States from France sometime before June.

In re-evaluating the declining Holland account, the administrative staff discovered an additional \$1,600 per month is needed just to stop the plunge.

Besides the needed \$1,600 in monthly commitments, General Director R. Eugene Waddell stated that the Hollands need an additional \$15,000 in cash to recover enough to handle

the costs of a car and moving expenses.

Ernest and Elaine have been in France studying the French language and were just preparing for their move to the Ivory Coast. Now, they will spend the time required to raise the support necessary for their ministry in Africa.

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Brazil—A one-day retreat was held on February 16 in Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil, with the Barbacena Free Will Baptist Church joining the Lafaiete church. According to missionary Dave Franks, a bus load (45 people) traveled from Barbacena to Lafaiete. "God blessed the day of preaching, Bible study, and fellowship," writes Dave.

France—Missionary Allan Crowson has requested special prayer for Bernard and Danielle Legovic in Lorient, France. They are the parents of Tristan, a friend of Timothy Crowson. "I was able to share the plan of salvation with them in a very direct way," writes Allan. "Danielle became very misty-eyed and had to get out her handkerchief." Christians were urged to pray for the salvation of this couple.

Ivory Coast—Alice Smith, missionary to Ivory Coast, underwent surgery on March 7 at Conservative Baptist Hospital in Ferkessedougou, Ivory Coast. She had a cyst removed from her foot.

Henderson, Tex.—Mrs. Lurene Billingsley, sister of Marvis Eagleton who is serving in Brazil, died in her sleep on February 17. She and her husband were both in the hospital with the flu.

Nashville, Tenn.—Mike and Karen Robirds became parents for the first time on March 6 in Nashville. Daughter Emily Ann weighed six pounds, 12 ounces. Mike is the son of Don Robirds, director of communications for foreign missions.

India—The annual conference of Free Will Baptists in North India was held March 2-6. Approximately 500 persons attended.

Morehead City, N.C.—Mr. Charles Barker, father of Uruguay missionary Molly Barker, died on March 3 in Morehead City, N.C. He died of natural causes at 85 years of age. Molly had returned from Uruguay on March

1. Funeral services were held in the First Free Will Baptist Church in Morehead City on March 6. Missionary Walter (Dub) Ellison helped in the funeral.

Charleston, S.C.—Don and Millie Hanna became parents of a newborn son, Timothy, on February 27, 1988, in Charleston, S.C. Don is the son of Carlisle and Marie Hanna, missionaries serving in India. Don and Millie also have a daughter, Christina.

Ft. Worth, Tex.—Naomi Stom, sister of missionary Ken Eagleton in Brazil, suffered a stroke sometime in February in Ft. Worth, Tex. The stroke left her speechless and partially paralyzed.

Nashville, Tenn.—Carol Robirds, wife of Director of Communications Don Robirds, underwent major corrective surgery in Nashville on January 8. She underwent a second surgery on February 10 to close some areas where the first surgery had not healed. Latest reports indicate she is getting back to normal.

Student Missionaries Get Set for Summer Tasks

Nashville, Tenn.—Four student missionaries are making plans to depart in May for their assignments in Ivory Coast and Panama during the summer. The students will spend approximately ten weeks helping missionaries in any way they can.

Going to Ivory Coast will be Joan Warner and Michael Gragg, both of Nashville, Tenn., and Barbara Warner of Fredericktown, Mo. Joan will work with Norman and Bessie Richards in

Agnibilekrou; Michael will work with the Mike Cousineaus at the Bible institute in Bouna; and Barbara will help the Clint Morgans in Bouna.

Lovenia Childress of Louisa, Ky., will work with the Steve Lytles in Panama.

Joan Warner is the daughter of Fred Warner, director of church ministries for foreign missions.

Villalba Hosts 10-15 New People at Special Event

Spain—A special Christmas program at Villalba Free Will Baptist Church in Spain opened the door to between 10 and 15 new people who attended for the first time. In a late report from Dennis Owen, he disclosed that 91 people attended the special event. "A couple of boys even made decisions for the Lord," writes Dennis.

Frank Cousineau, Former Missionary, Fatally Shot

Houston, Tex.—Mr. Frank Cousineau, former missionary to Ivory Coast and father of missionary Mike Cousineau, was fatally wounded on February 9, 1988, in Houston, Tex. Details of the shooting incident were unknown at press time.

Cousineau had served one term in Ivory Coast from 1968 to 1973. He also served from 1974 to 1977 with home missions in Billings, Mont. For several years he had operated a cement contracting firm in Houston, Tex.

Mike and Deleen Cousineau returned from Ivory Coast for the funeral. Frank is survived by his wife, Marie, and four sons—Robert, Mike, Maurice Jr., and Mark.

Four student missionaries are preparing to serve overseas during the summer. Pictured with General Director R. Eugene Waddell are (left to right) Michael Gragg, Waddell, Joan Warner, Barbara Warner, and Lovenia Childress.



HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

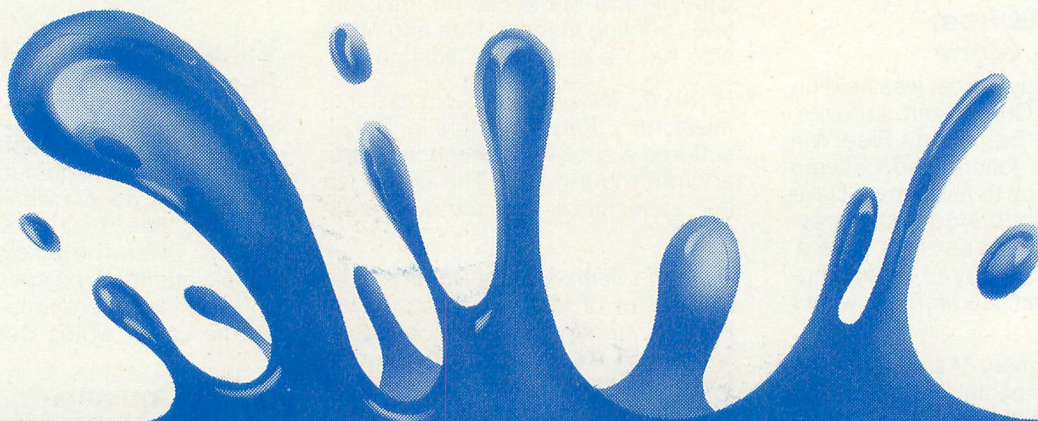
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Please clip and send this label with all correspondence.



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