MAY 1988

# HEARTBEAT

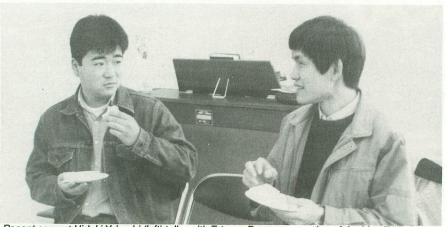
of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world



Church Building in Progress at St. Nazaire, France

## news update



Recent convert Hideki Yahashi (left) talks with Tetsuya Domae, a member of the Iriso FWB Church in Japan, during a fellowship time in the church.

## Cathy Crawford Reports on Live-in Discipleship

France—Missionary Cathy Crawford in Nantes, France, just finished a period of discipling and counseling.

Monique, a 27-year-old woman who had sought a solution to life's problems by taking drugs, was saved in the church at Nantes during the last quarter of 1987. The next day she moved in with Cathy "for a month while she tried to find a place of her own." Now, three and one-half months later, Monique is living on her own.

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"She's made a lot of progress," Cathy concluded. "Please pray that when she's afraid of failing...she will give those fears to the Lord."

## Hersey Cites Conversion of Son's Long-time Friend

Japan—"A few weeks ago our hearts rejoiced to hear Hideki Hayashi tell everyone he was saved and had assurance of salvation," writes Fred Hersey from Japan. Hersey noted that Hideki had been their next-door neighbor and had grown up with Paul, their youngest son.

When Paul visited Japan in the summer of 1987, Hideki found out about it and anxiously awaited his arrival. Paul invited him to church and he faithfully attended while Paul was in Japan.

Fred continued, "We all encouraged Hideki to continue to come to church as the time came for Paul to return to Northwestern University. He continued to come week after week and one Sunday told everyone he came at first because of obligation to Paul but now he was attending because he wanted to."

Fred urged Christians to pray for Hideki that he will follow the Lord in baptism and continue to grow as a Christian.

#### Alice Smith Has Surgery, Begins Classes in Schools

Ivory Coast—Missionary Alice Smith had surgery on March 7 at the Conservative Baptist Hospital at Ferkessedougou, Ivory Coast. Doctors removed an "inflammatory mass from plantar adoneurosis in the right foot." Pathological reports were not back at

press time, but the surgeon expressed confidence that the results would prove to be benign.

Alice reported having reopened Bible classes in the public schools and rejoiced that she was teaching about 200 children ranging in age between eight and 15 years. "Even the school teachers are interested this year!" she exclaimed.

## Five People Baptized in Jaboticabal Service

Brazil—Five people from the Jaboticabal Free Will Baptist Church were baptized on February 14 at Evangelandia, the camp and Bible institute site. One couple and three other individuals were among the baptismal candidates.

The special service was attended by many of the campers who were on hand for the children's camp.

Jeancarlo Ache is pastor of the church.



Sam Wilkinson

## Sam Wilkinson, Former Missionary, Succumbs

Moore, Okla.—Former missionary to Brazil Sam Wilkinson died suddenly while mowing his yard on April 11 in Moore, Okla. Cause of death for the 54-year-old professor of missions at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College was listed as acute coronary deficiency.

General Director R. Eugene Waddell expressed his appreciation for Wilkinson: "Sam was a valuable member of our missionary team and a very close personal friend. Since we first met in 1950, we maintained a close relationship.

"Sam and June established the church in Jaboticabal, Brazil. During my recent visit to Brazil some Christians asked me to relay their love and appreciation for the Wilkinsons' ministry.

"Sam enjoyed teaching, and I was really glad when he went to Hillsdale. He was making a very important contribution to the future of foreign missions."

In conclusion Eugene stated, "All of us in the foreign missions family will miss the jovial spirit and deep sincerity of Sam Wilkinson. On behalf of the board, the staff, and the missionaries, I want to extend my sympathy to June and the rest of the Wilkinson family."

Wilkinson and his wife, June, served as missionaries to Brazil from December 1959 until March of 1979, over 19 years. Sam pastored and taught in a Christian school in Georgia after returning to the United States. He had been at Hillsdale since August of 1985.

Sam is survived by his wife and three children: Kevin, Kimberly, and Kenan. He also leaves five grandchildren, three brothers, and two sisters.

#### Church Building Nears Completion in St. Nazaire

France—The new church building being constructed in St. Nazaire, France, is nearing completion thanks to the four men from Tennessee who went to France during March and April to finish the inside portion of the building.

According to Tom McCullough, a French electrician who was overseeing the electrical work was so impressed with Tommy Sanders, Dan Farber, Dan Harmon, and Fred Haney that he donated some of his time and helped put up some of the insulation. He even invited the entire team over to his house for supper. "Please pray for Guy (pronounced *Ghee*) that he may be won to the Lord," writes Tom.

The building was dedicated on April 3 before the four men returned to the United States. Approximately 95 people were on hand for the regular morning service and 20 people responded to the invitation. Several of these were first-time decisions for Christ.

The afternoon dedication service hosted 160 people as representatives from the Nantes and Rennes Free Will Baptist churches were on hand for the special service.

The four men who had helped with the building returned to the United States on April 5.

## J. Smith Ministers to College English Students

Japan—Judy Smith recently reported from Japan that she had officially been approved to teach English conversation classes at Hokusei Univer-



Missionary Mark Daniel at Nassian, Ivory Coast, recently preached his first message in the Koulango language using only brief notes. A national worker translates the message into another language.

sity. Judy teaches three classes a week to approximately 20 freshman students and 40 sophomore students.

"I'm really excited about this because up until now I've mainly worked with children and women in our church work," Judy stated. "Now I'll have an opportunity to have a ministry with college students, a number of whom are from our town of Kita Hiroshima."

#### Daniel Preaches First Message in Koulango

Ivory Coast—March 6 marked missionary Mark Daniel's "solo" in preaching "free style" in the Koulango language. Mark, who lives in Nassian, Ivory Coast, had preached using manuscripts on prior occasions but this was the first time he preached using only notes.

The Daniels have been involved in Koulango language study for approximately 18 months. Donna Daniel gave her first lesson in Koulango to the ladies in the church at Nassian on March 12. Her lesson on sharing a personal testimony with unsaved friends and neighbors "was well received" according to Mark and "several participants congratulated Donna that her presentation was very comprehensible."

#### Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Japan—Over 20 ladies from area Free Will Baptist churches gathered in Sapporo on February 14 for an All-Sapporo Women's Meeting.

France—Allan and LaRue Crowson have requested prayer for the Legovic family. Through their son, Tristan, who is Timothy Crowson's friend, the Crowsons have made contact with the family. "I presented the gospel in a simple, straight-forward way," says

Allan. "Bernard Legovic listened closely and his wife, Danielle, fought back the moisture in her eyes until she reached for a handkerchief"

Ivory Coast—Missionary Bessie Richards of Agnibilekrou, Ivory Coast, has been suffering from an inflamed sciatic nerve in her left hip and leg. A report in March indicated she had recovered sufficiently to resume her activities.

Japan—Fifty-one children recently graduated from kindergarten at the Higashi Tsukisamu Free Will Baptist Church in Sapporo, Japan. Another 15 graduated from the branch kindergarten.

Brazil—'A first-timer at church said he came to say 'Thank you' for the radio program,' writes Jean Deeds from Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil. Even though the man is not a Christian, he indicated he and his family have listened to Earnie's radio broadcast for Continued on back→

#### **Financial Summary**

#### Through March 31 \$ubstance

Total income for March	\$	236,987.90
Total income through March		686,786.33
Total disbursements through March		729,495.03
Projected income through March		796,506.00
Total 1988 Budget	\$3	,186,036.00
ADVANCE gifts through March	\$	35,778.32
1988 ADVANCE Budget	\$	150,000.00

#### \$hortage

All of the	following accounts	ts are in the deficit:		
Bishop	\$ 7,155.21	McCullough \$	9,567.00	
Bryan	641.37	Morgan	364.05	
Combs	3,171.88	Nichols	7,796.11	
Crosby	11,390.40	Owen	8,667.28	
Crowson		Payne	3,582.94	
Ellison	5,081.65	Richards	7,433.15	
Filkins	2,373.36	Smith, J	2,254.27	
Franks	5,051.77	Sparks	6,454.40	
Gilliland .	2,642.94	Sturgill	12,149.59	
Hanna	17,627.35	Turnbough.	7,361.99	
Hersey	5,449.64	Willey	3,372.32	
Lee	162.62	General Fund	37,849.77	
Total		\$	70 052 32	

→ Continued from inside years. Rising costs have threatened the continuance of the program.

France—Patsy Vanhook reported in March that a teenage boy, Stephane, had made a decision for Christ. He was first contacted during children's club and later through youth meetings. Finally, he started attending worship services.

Japan—Jeffery Bishop, son of missionaries Dale and Sandra Bishop, was hospitalized in Sapporo, Japan, on April 7 due to low blood count.

India—Carlisle Hanna, who remained in India after Marie left for the United States in early March, has reported suffering from lack of strength, poor balance, and was having difficulty walking. This was thought to stem from a vitamin deficiency. He is scheduled to leave for a short furlough around May 23.

Japan—Short-term missionaries to Japan, Paul and Rhoda Creech, returned to the United States on April 3 after a year of working in the kindergarten at Higashi Tsukisamu church.

## Morgan Reports on Bible Institute Activities

Ivory Coast—Missionary Clint Morgan reported in March that the second semester of the Bible institute at Bouna, Ivory Coast, had involved the students in a number of activities.

Statistics show that 69 messages were preached, 59 lessons were taught, 22 people received counsel by students, 14 people were in "Paul-

Timothy" discipleship, three evangelistic film showings were held, and two different students preached at Christian funerals. Fifteen conversions were reported and two newconvert study groups were organized and conducted by students.

Morgan noted that the schedule of studies and the regular routine of students were quite rigorous. In addition to 16 class hours each week (sometimes 20), weekends on the road preaching, etc., each student still put in over 45 hours a week in manual labor as a part of practical training.

#### Bowling Has Surgery in Montevideo on March 26

Uruguay—Missionary Rick Bowling underwent surgery for the removal of his gallbladder on March 26 in a hospital in Montevideo. Uruguay.

Bowling had planned to wait until he arrived in the United States during the summer to have the surgery, but he became ill on March 24 and finally went to the hospital on March 25. The surgery was performed at 7:30 the following morning. He left the hospital on March 29 and reports indicated he was recovering normally.

The Bowlings are now scheduled to arrive in the United States for furlough on May 30.

#### Lytles Report Blessings Amid the Panama Crisis

Panama—Amid the crisis of power struggle and total political unrest in Panama, Steve and Judy Lytle reported in April they had faced no serious personal encounters while

experiencing "tremendous blessings" in the church services.

"God blessed us with a terrific Bible school in spite of all the political turmoil February 22-26," writes Judy. "Some 69 boys and girls came to study God's Word. We believe at least 20 accepted Christ as Savior during the week!"

The biggest problem for the Lytles and the Bunches is the lack of money with which to purchase needed supplies due to banks being closed and lack of check-cashing outlets. So far they have been able to make arrangements through friends, but those resources are limited. Church people have been very cooperative and sharing, but Christians have been urged to pray that the crisis will soon be justly resolved.

## 35 Attend First Service in New Ribeirao Work

Brazil—The first service in the new work in the Sumare area of Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, was held on March 6 with 35 people attending. According to missionary Bobby Poole, 100 people attended the open house which was held on Sunday, February 28.

"We have had services now for three Sundays and our Sunday school attendance was 35, 31, 34," writes Bobby. "The services at night had 26, 25, 52. There are three families that have attended the First Church but have been out for some time. We have been able to get them back in church. We have taken offerings now for two services and the income has been very good."

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of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Post Office Box 1088 Nashville, Tennessee 37202

Vol. 28, No. 4

May 1988

Editor: Don Robirds
Editorial Assistant: Carole Ragan

Heartbeat (USPS 239-020) is published monthly except bimonthly in January–February and July–August by the Board of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, 1134 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville, Tenn. 37217. Second-class postage paid at Nashville, Tenn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Heartbeat, Box 1088, Nashville, Tenn. 37202.

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