

SEPTEMBER 1988

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world

Cuban FWB Leaders Visit United States Churches



Gilberto Diaz Triana and Roberto Perez Hernandez assured FWB audiences a very strong bond of faith and fellowship exists between Cuban and U.S. Free Will Baptists.

Ohio Churches Adopt India Church Project

Columbus, Oh.—Ohio Free Will Baptist churches have accepted the challenge to provide funds for construction of a church in North India. The building is expected to cost \$12,500.

In a special effort to spearhead the project, missionary Carlisle Hanna was in Ohio July 9-13 for two church services and three missionary rallies. The Dailyville church responded with \$677.59, Heritage Temple donated \$300, a Porter rally contributed \$2,590.24, a rally at Dayton First church raised \$1,306, and a Cleveland rally generated \$930.35. The rallies and church offerings had totaled approximately \$6,100 at last report.

Alton Loveless, promotional director for Ohio Free Will Baptists, wrote, "As I learned that the average income of our Free Will Baptist brothers in this area of North India was between \$7 and \$25 per month, I was convicted of our plenty and knew God . . . would hold us accountable if we didn't build their church . . ."

The building is really needed since Pastor Das has more than 100 baptized believers and about 100 more awaiting baptism. The church is located in a strong Muslim area.

Richards Baptizes Seven from Agnibilekrou Area

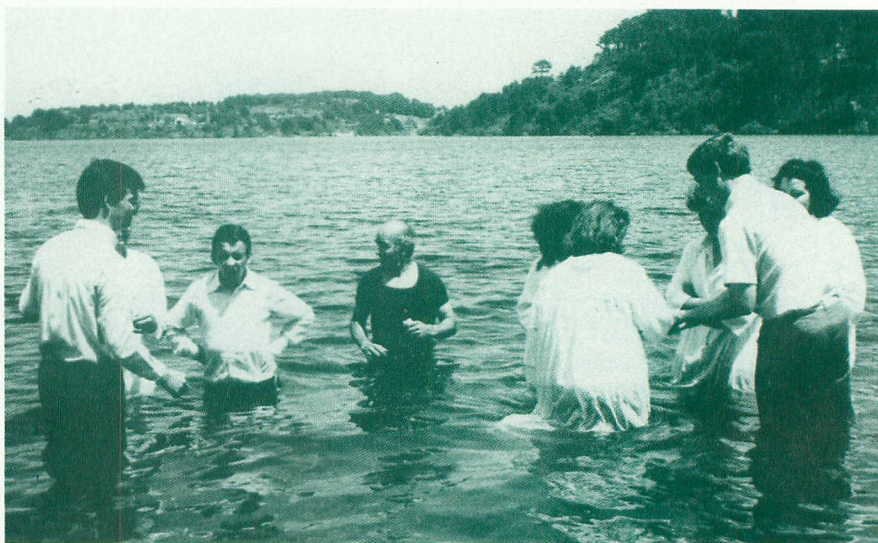
Ivory Coast—Missionary Norman Richards baptized seven people from the Agnibilekrou area of Ivory Coast on June 19.

Richards also revealed the church had decided to conduct an evangelism campaign in Yebouakro, a village approximately 12 miles from Agnibilekrou. The campaign is scheduled for sometime in early September. The other churches in the area plan to help in the effort.

Turnbough Baptizes Seven from Villalba Work

Spain—Seven adults from the Villalba Free Will Baptist Church were baptized in a special service at a lake following the morning service on June 19. According to missionary Jeff Turnbough, between 80 and 90 people traveled to the park in a rented bus for the special event.

Foreign missions General Director Eugene Waddell was on hand and preached during the morning service



Missionaries Jeff Turnbough (left) and Steve Reeves (right) prepare baptismal candidates from Villalba, Spain, for baptism. Jeff baptized seven on June 19.

at the church with approximately 80 people in attendance. Turnbough indicated several of these people attended a Protestant church for the first time and some heard a gospel message for the first time that day.

The church members prepared a special Spanish dish, paella, prior to the baptismal service. All of those baptized had been involved in new convert studies.

Turnbough noted the church was planning several evangelistic activities for the summer including a bookstand in open-air markets, singing and testifying in the streets and parks, and a general tract distribution effort. Steve and Linda Reeves are now assisting the Turnboughs at Villalba.

Jim Teague Rejoices at Chance to Gain Convert

Ivory Coast—Jim Teague, associate missionary serving at the Ivory Coast Academy in Bouake, recently led a young Catholic seminary student to the Lord. He had been reading English with the student and gave him a New Testament, asking God to speak to the man through His Word.

"The second week he asked, 'What does it mean when Jesus said I come not to destroy but to fulfill the law?' The answers came so easily," Jim declared, "I knew God was helping me to give further light."

Jim gave the young man the Gospel of John on cassette to assist him in his reading. "You can imagine my joy," says Teague, "as his question the

next week was, 'In the story of Nicodemus, what does it mean to be born again?' The answer to our prayer and his was answered as we walked together the Romans road and Christ came into his heart."

Agua Buena Church Records 400 Decisions

Panama—The Agua Buena Free Will Baptist Church in Panama recently witnessed to over 800 people and recorded approximately 400 decisions for Christ, including rededications, etc.

The church had just completed a five and one-half month training program in evangelism and discipleship. The program was conducted with the help of a parachurch organization in Panama. Eight members of the church received certificates for having successfully completed the course.

Part of the special outreach effort included the use of films.

VBS for Ivory Coast MKs Held in Bouna

Ivory Coast—Missionaries Alice Smith, Arilla Wode, and student missionaries Joan Warner, Barbara Warner, and Michael Gragg all worked in a special vacation Bible school at Bouna for Ivory Coast MKs July 11-15. This was the first VBS to be held for the MKs in Ivory Coast.

All 12 missionary children on the field participated in the special VBS effort. Classes and crafts were held in the mornings and recreation was held each afternoon.



Don McDonald receives his diploma from Dr. Shelton Allen for completing Japanese language study at Japan Missionary Language Institute.

McDonald Graduates from Japanese Language Study

Japan—Missionary Don McDonald, who has been studying the Japanese language for the past two years, graduated from Japan Missionary Language Institute on July 15. He had given his graduation speech on July 13.

Dr. Noah Brannen, the author of the language textbook, was the special speaker for the event.

Don and his wife, Ruth, were scheduled to move to the northern island of Hokkaido by the end of August. They plan to work with Pastor Kawasaki at the Ai No Sato church.

Beaver Creek Women Get \$13,000 Cash Commitment

Spartanburg, S.C.—Beaver Creek District Woman's Auxiliary President Gwen Hendrix announced on June 24 that local auxiliary commitments in the district had totaled \$13,000 toward cash needed for missionary appointees Ron and Linda Moore. The announcement was made during a talent show fund-raising effort for the project.

In March the Beaver Creek women set a goal of \$12,000 for the Moores so the couple could leave for France on schedule in August. In mid-August the Moores were to be presented with at least \$6,000 of the committed amount. The remaining commitments are to be received by March of 1989.

The talent show effort netted \$600 toward the goal. Nine local church

auxiliaries participated in the event, and over 200 people attended. Seventeen auxiliaries make up the Beaver Creek district.

Cuban FWB Leaders Visit U.S. Churches in August

Nashville, Tenn.—Cuban Free Will Baptist leaders were finally granted permission to visit the United States and arrived in Miami, Fla., on August 1. They traveled to Nashville, Tenn., on Tuesday, August 2, where they participated in the annual foreign missions retreat.

According to R. Eugene Waddell, Gilberto Diaz Triana and Roberto Perez Hernandez were scheduled to visit churches in Tennessee and North

Walter Ellison (left) translates for Cuban leaders Gilberto Diaz Triana (center) and Roberto Perez Hernandez as they share testimonies with missionaries at the foreign missions retreat at FWB Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., during the first week in August.



Carolina, as well as in Arkansas, California, Michigan, and Florida, depending on an extension of their 15-day visas. At press time only a five-day extension had been granted.

The men assured American audiences that a very strong bond of faith and fellowship exists between Cuban and U.S. Free Will Baptists. They also rejoiced at the prospects for reopening Cedars of Lebanon Seminary and rebuilding the chapel in memory of Pop Willey.

Fred Warner, director of church ministries, coordinated the itinerary.

VBS Raises \$700 for Norman Richards' Account

Walnut Ridge, Ark.—The First Free Will Baptist Church of Walnut Ridge, Ark., held its annual vacation Bible school June 6-10, 1988, with an average attendance of 92. Their special project for the week was directed toward Norman and Bessie Richards in Ivory Coast: They gave \$700.90 to the Richards' account.

The highlight of the week, according to Pastor Larry D. Hughes, was the offering. The boys were competing with the girls to see who could give the most by weight. A large balancing scale was placed in front of the auditorium and each night the boys and girls placed their containers on the scale to see who had won.

"The majority of this offering was received in pennies!" writes Pastor Hughes. "If only we adults could achieve the enthusiasm and joy of giving that these children have, there would be no limit as to what could be done on our mission fields."

Moving Response to Wednesday Night Message, and Record Missions Offering Highlight National

Kansas City, Mo.—A moving of God's Spirit was evident during the invitation following the Wednesday night message by Fred Warner, director of church ministries for foreign missions. This, combined with a record missions offering of \$23,476.57, highlighted the National Association July 17-21 at Kansas City, Mo.

Warner preached on the theme "Perceive Our Welcome by God" using 2 Timothy 4:6-8. He challenged the audience to a faithful life and a continuing faith as prerequisites to a confident hope.

The undesignated portion of the offering that evening was divided equally by foreign and home missions.

Other foreign missions activities at the convention included the adoption of a 1989 foreign missions budget of \$3,279,414 plus \$150,000 for Advance projects.

An Advance Celebration dinner honored Advance leaders from around the country. Advance Coordinator Jimmy Aldridge commended those present and praised God for \$421,000 raised to help developing national churches abroad and to help in sending new missionaries to the field. Doug Little of Russellville, Ark., led the group in worship and praise as he sang several songs and testified of his involvement with the new church building project in St. Nazaire, France.

R. Eugene Waddell, general director, called on Free Will Baptists to pray for the Cuban Christians as they have been authorized to remodel and

enlarge the chapel at Cedars of Lebanon Seminary. It is to be renamed Pop Willey Memorial Chapel in memory of the late Pop Willey, founder of the school. Costs for the building are estimated to run about \$36,000.

The association also received and adopted the report of the special committee investigating the charges against Ivory Coast missionaries by former missionary Lonnie Palmer. The report stated the charges were false. The body passed a resolution commending the committee for its work and expressing confidence in the work of Ivory Coast missionaries, the foreign missions staff, and the Board of Foreign Missions.



Bill Reagan of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, was elected to the Board of Foreign Missions.

A special tribute was paid to former missionary Sam Wilkinson who died suddenly in April. He and his wife, June, had served 19 years in Brazil before assuming a stateside ministry in Georgia and later at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in Oklahoma. As a memorial, the college sponsored a

walk-a-thon for the mission work in Mexico. They raised \$2,217 for the project and presented the money to Roy Thomas, general director of home missions.

Bill Reagan of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, was elected to the spot on the foreign missions board vacated by Jim Walker who was ineligible to be re-elected. Norwood Gibson and Bob Trimble were re-elected to six-year terms.

Missionaries Featured by WNAC; \$2,500 Presented

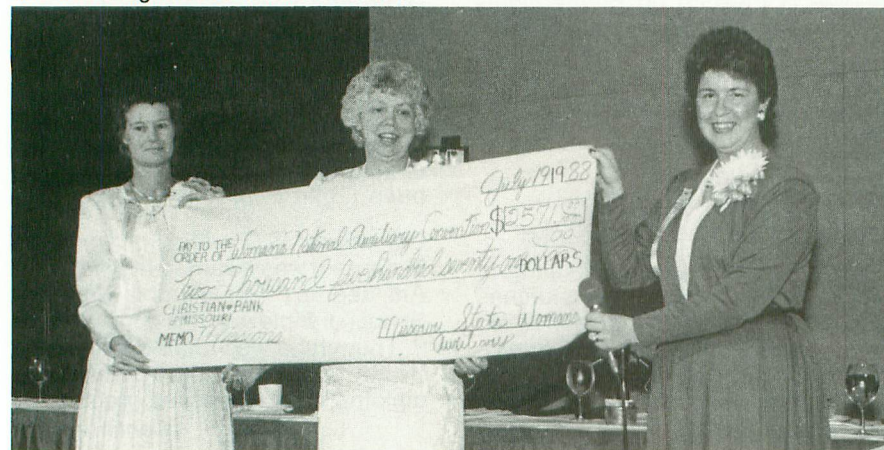
Kansas City, Mo.—In their fifty-third session, the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention gathered 892 strong at Kansas City, Mo., July 18 and 19. Included in their activities, which revolved around the theme "Arise and Build," were a number of events involving both foreign and home missionaries.

On Tuesday morning missionary Marvis Eagleton from Brazil gave the devotion. James Munsey of Mexico preached the morning message. In the afternoon a skit, written by Barbara Fletcher of Bristol, Ga., was presented with the help of seven missionaries: Rick Bowling and Walter Ellison of Uruguay, Carol Teague of France, Dave Franks of Brazil, Lynn Midgett of Spain, Janice Banks of Japan, and Larry Inscoe of Panama.

The presentation ended by asking who, among Free Will Baptists, really cares.

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Missouri Woman's Auxiliary President Rose Mertz (right) presents an enlarged version of a check to WNAC Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Mary R. Wisehart (center) during the WNAC banquet in Kansas City, Mo. The check for \$2,571 was given in lieu of centerpieces at the banquet and was designated for missions accounts.



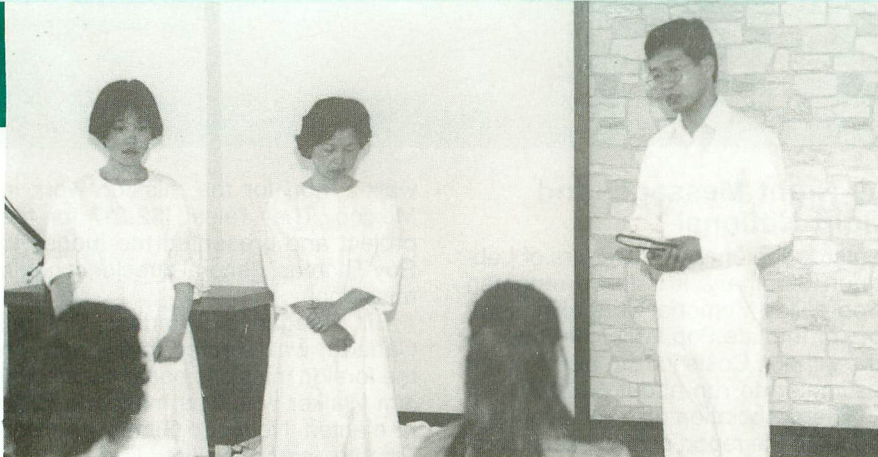
Financial Summary

Through July 31 \$substance

Total income for July	\$ 265,789.91
Total income through July	1,773,707.88
Total disbursements through July	1,726,539.05
Projected income for July	1,858,514.00
Total 1988 Budget	\$3,186,036.00
ADVANCE gifts through July	\$ 96,285.44
1988 ADVANCE Budget	\$ 150,000.00

\$shortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:			
Bishop	\$ 5,271.78	Morgan	\$ 4,437.58
Bowling	3,119.11	Nichols	8,908.57
Combs	1,915.68	Owen	5,242.83
Crosby	6,083.60	Payne	6,423.30
Crowson	10,650.28	Richards	4,843.32
Eagleton	7,864.43	Smith, J.	6,433.45
Filkins	574.75	Sparks	4,652.63
Franks	8,649.94	Sturgill	1,151.70
Gilliland	1,161.95	Turnbough	1,790.42
Hersey	7,749.17	Willey	2,164.06
Lee	6,020.85	Cuba	164.55
McCullough	11,999.81	I.C. Hosp.	469.88
Midgett	7,271.20	Spec. Com.	18,867.55
Total			\$143,882.39



Pastor Kawasaki (right) addresses the group gathered at Ai No Sato FWB Church in northern Japan as two baptismal candidates await baptism.



Dale Bishop preaches the dedication service for the new Ai No Sato church building on the island of Hokkaido in northern Japan. The service was held on June 19.

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At the WNAC banquet on Tuesday evening, Laura Thigpen carried the audience by dramatic reading to Vietnam where missionaries Betty Olsen and Hank Blood were martyred. At the conclusion of the banquet Rose Mertz, president of the Missouri Woman's Auxiliary, presented Dr. Mary Wisehart a check for \$2,571 for missionary accounts. The Missouri ladies decided to do this instead of spending money for centerpieces on the tables.

Youth Raise \$15,000 for Uruguay Institute

Kansas City, Mo.—Young people of the National Youth Conference surpassed their Aim for Uruguay goal of \$10,000 by at least an additional \$5,000 as the project concluded in Kansas City July 18-20.

Jim Lauthern, youth division director for Randall House Publications, presented a check for over \$15,000 to R. Eugene Waddell, general director of foreign missions, during the Wednesday evening service following the introduction of missionaries. The money is directed toward the Sower Bible Institute in Uruguay.

Betania Church Votes to Build Addition

Panama—The Betania Free Will Baptist Church in a suburb of Panama City, Panama, recently voted to build an addition to their building. The construction will increase their seating capacity from 80 to approximately 125.

Missionary Steve Lytle noted that much of the building materials and labor was to be donated and several people have given special offerings to enable the church to build.

In additional news, Steve reported that the Los Andes group of 15-20 people is meeting on Friday nights with Daniel, associate pastor at Betania. Three times a week groups from the Betania church go to Los Andes to have follow-up studies with new believers.

New Church Building Dedicated at Ai No Sato

Japan—The semi-annual meeting of Hokkaido Free Will Baptist churches was held June 19 at the new Ai No Sato Free Will Baptist Church. Approximately 150 people attended the meeting which was followed by a dedication service for the new

building.

Missionary Dale Bishop preached during the special service. A baptismal service was held in the morning with two people being baptized.

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Japan—Reverend and Mrs. John Postlewaite, parents of missionary Ruth McDonald, traveled to Japan to visit Don and Ruth from July 27-August 17. Postlewaite led the dedication for his granddaughter, Katie McDonald, on July 31. The service was held at the Iriso Free Will Baptist Church.

Ivory Coast—Mike Cousineau reported baptizing six people from the Bouna church in July. These had just successfully completed the baptismal course. "This was an encouragement to the church," writes Mike.

Panama—Missionary Stan Bunch reported from Parita, Panama, that the son of one of the main police sergeants was converted recently. Stan has begun discipleship classes with him.

Bryan, Tex.—"Mom" Mabel Willey is planning to go to Cuba in September for the opening of the Cedars of Lebanon Seminary. The government has given permission to reopen the school and the buildings are being repaired as fast as the people can obtain materials. The chapel is being rebuilt and will be called "Pop Willey Memorial Chapel." "Mom" requested prayer that God would supply the needed funds for these building materials.

Japan—Pastor Kurosaki of the Abashiri Free Will Baptist Church in Hokkaido, Japan, has been hospitalized for some time for tests and treatment. According to missionary Dale Bishop, while the pastor was in the hospital his vocal cords were damaged. Doctors do not know when or if he will get better. Christians have been urged to pray for his recovery.

Columbia, S.C.—Missionary Don McDonald was awarded his Master of Arts degree from Columbia Graduate School of Bible and Missions on June 3. Though he was unable to travel to South Carolina and accept his diploma, Don expressed gratitude to

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the Lord for enabling him to complete this course.

Nashville, Tenn.—Associate missionary Mirial Gainer arrived in Nashville, Tenn., on July 28 and met with the foreign missions administrative staff on July 29. She spent a few days at the foreign missions retreat during the first week in August and visited her mother in Florence, S.C. She came to the United States on official business for Hokusei University where she teaches.

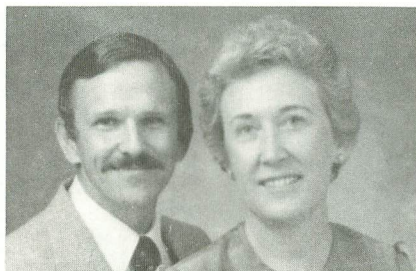
Effingham, S.C.—Mary Evelyn Hicks, mother of missionary Geneva Poole, suffered a stroke and heart attack in late July and was hospitalized in Florence, S.C. Geneva came to the States on July 28. At press time Mrs. Hicks' condition was unknown by the foreign missions staff.

Lakeland, Fla.—The Reverend Robert Owen, father of missionary Dennis Owen of Spain, was hospitalized in July with severe chest pains. Doctors discovered one blocked artery and performed a "balloon" technique in an effort to open the blockage. Latest reports indicated the procedure was successful.

Two More Couples Set to Depart for Fields

Nashville, Tenn.—Two missionary couples were scheduled to depart for their fields of service in early September.

Robert and Judy Bryan and their family were to return to Ivory Coast on September 1 after 14 months of fur-



Robert and Judy Bryan



Jerry and Barbara Gibbs

lough ministry. They will resume their ministry in Abidjan.

Jerry and Barbara Gibbs and their three children were scheduled to leave for France on September 2. They will continue their ministry in the new church at St. Nazaire and allow Tom and Patty McCullough to come to the United States in October for furlough.

The Walter Ellison family, the Jim McLains, and the Ernest Hollands are hoping to get clearance soon to return to their respective fields.

The Ken Baileys have been delayed in returning to Japan but were rescheduled to leave on September 2.

Charolette Tallent has been delayed in her return to France due to lack of adequate monthly support.

Janice Banks to Teach at Hillsdale College

Moore, Okla.—Janice Banks, missionary to Japan, will be teaching missions and Christian education courses at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in Moore, Okla., during the coming year. With the death of former missionary Sam Wilkinson, who had been teaching missions, the college requested Janice to help them out next year.



Janice Banks

"Since we can't go back to Japan yet," says Janice, "we feel this is one way of carrying on our missionary work." Jerry will continue his deputational ministry in an effort to raise needed support in order to return to Japan by next summer.

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