

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1989

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world



Building for GOD's Glory

Sanders:

God first impressed me with the St. Nazaire project in the summer of 1987. Mission requests were being mentioned on a Wednesday night at Horton Heights Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tenn. Three notes from church members in St. Nazaire had shared their need for a building.

Madeleine's note especially caught my attention. She said the French people would not visit their storefront meeting place because it was not worthy of the name of the Lord. She indicated people would equate it with a meeting place for cults.

The church needed \$50,000 to build a shell so members could finish the interior. I thought, "How can we let \$50,000 stand in the way of people coming to hear the gospel?" God laid it on my heart to give.

In October the project was reinforced to me by the cover story in *Heartbeat*. Edouard Michon, 74-year-old member of

the church in St. Nazaire, shared his testimony. His words confirmed those shared by Madeleine earlier: Frenchmen will not venture into a storefront building to hear the gospel because of their cultural expectations. The group still needed \$30,000 to erect the building. If I could have given that much, I was ready to give it.

Then missionary Jerry Gibbs called at the end of December to share his excitement over plans for the building. He pointed out the need for men to go over and help with finishing the interior. He didn't know the Lord had been preparing my heart to go.

The next Sunday morning I asked Danny Harmon, "How would you like to go to France to finish the inside of a church building?" His answer surprised me: "When do we leave?" As I reflect now, that was the prod which encouraged me to go. Later, as others were sought to complete the team, Danny suggested that I ask Dan Farber.

Farber:

I received a phone call about 8:00 p.m. one night in January. It was Tom Sanders. He asked me if I would be interested in going to France in the spring to finish the inside of the proposed church in St. Nazaire.

I can't actually convey the feelings I had at that precise moment, but I guess I thought, "How can I go? Just look at all my commitments. There's no way I can go!" So, to sound spiritual and release myself from instant commitment, I told him I'd really need to "pray" about it.

I finally did make the commitment to go and helped to encourage the others. But as the day of departure grew closer, the thought of leaving my wife, Doris, and our two children, Jessica and Ryan, began to set in.

I can't say everything came together like I wanted it to. But it was good for me to be in a position to trust God and His church to meet the needs of my family while I was gone. I had

Building for God's Glory

*by Tommy Sanders
with Dan Farber
and Tom McCullough*

Dan Harmon (bottom left) measures above a window, Tom Sanders inspects drywall materials, and Fred Haney and Dan Farber hang paneling.



to depend on the One I had committed my life to at 19 years of age.

Sanders:

Farber said he would let me know in a week. His excited response at the end of that week sealed it. If God wanted us in St. Nazaire, we were ready!

We asked our brothers and sisters at Horton to pray for the Lord to confirm our decision. In order to leave, we had to make plans in advance. And for our trip to be worthwhile, a building had to be ready for our work when we arrived. As we made plans, our church prayed!

Frenchmen will not venture into a storefront building to hear the gospel because of their cultural expectations.

When it is God's project, He takes care of the details. He had so arranged our work commitments that we all were able to leave for four weeks. God also laid it on the hearts of our brothers and sisters to pay for our expenses and plane tickets to go. As Judy Harmon was thumbing through the paper one day, she found an ad for discount plane fare which saved 25 percent. All our paperwork—birth certificates, visas, and passports—came through without problem.

During this time I was reading in Exodus how God prepared men for the building of the Tabernacle. It was humbling to reflect on our past, how God had apprenticed the three of us in different trades to gain skills for His use. We all had a broad background in various

construction trades, all but plumbing.

Who would do the plumbing, and how would four men (we three and Jerry Gibbs) complete the task in three weeks? God had the answer: Fred Haney. Time was short when Fred and Gladys, of Cookeville, Tenn., committed to go. Again, God took care of the details. The Haney's paperwork came through smoothly and we were all able to go on the same flight.

McCullough:

Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate during the laying of the foundation. Steady rain and standing water threatened to halt progress. But the courageous builders persevered and the foundation was completed on schedule. Faced with the possibility of more stormy weather and eventual damage, God's people prayed for His intervention. Not one drop of rain fell until the last shingle was placed on the roof.

Our congregation now readily testifies to the goodness and kindness of our Lord. They saw Him work firsthand. Many testified along with Mr. Michon, who declared: "The same God who responded to the faith of George Mueller and Hudson Taylor answered our prayers."

Sanders:

When we arrived in St. Nazaire, the structure was lacking only two windows, the entry doors, and 15 percent of the roof. The doors and windows were installed on Monday and the roof was completed. As the roofer finished and was descending his ladder, it began to sprinkle. It still awes me today to reflect. It was God's project!

Farber:

The work over the following weeks was exhausting, tedious, and frustrating at times. But I have had an opportunity to see, firsthand, some problems our missionaries face. This trip has given me insights into missions and into the joys, frustrations, burdens, and fulfillments experienced by our missionaries. I have had to repent for my past attitude toward missions.

Sanders:

We experienced some of the problems missionaries must face. We weren't able to run down to the local store and pick up familiar materials. Occasionally materials would not arrive according to our schedule or would not be available in the quantities we needed. Again, God was overseeing the project and continued to prove it to us as He helped us through the difficulties.

This new building has attracted more people to the gospel than any other evangelistic outreach in St. Nazaire since beginning the work.

God also prepared an electrician, Guy (pronounced Ghee) Sequin. We all developed a love for him and he for us. He ordered and purchased all our electrical supplies. Then he trained and instructed us, loaned us tools, and even helped us insulate the building.

In addition to the electrician, the Lord prepared a French mason, Mr. Tonya. He loaned us scaffolding that was not

Continued on page 4 →

→Continued from page 3
available to be rented. Without it we would not have finished *the ceiling* (25 feet above the floor). Mr. Tonya also was instrumental in finding someone to grade and gravel the parking lot.

Church members gave of their means to house and feed us. They treated us to Christian hospitality, and each one was special. The family of God transcends national boundaries!

Stanley, a self-employed window washer and transplanted Englishman (accent and all), sacrificed three clear days to be the extra hands we needed.

Mr. Eikerman came as an answer to our prayers to meticulously sand and paint the dry wall. And Rino opened his restaurant especially to serve us as unto the Lord. These are only a few of those who helped.

On the last workday, the members turned out in force and moved the furniture from the storefront building. They cleaned and helped with the finishing to be ready for Sunday morning. Some stayed up all night to see that everything was ready. And the Lord furnished the beautiful weather: sunshine both Saturday and Sunday.

That Sunday was the climax for all of us. We witnessed the excitement and joy on the people's faces. We saw the visitors who came, and observed the tool God had given. This tool, though temporal, could be used for eternal results: reconciling lost people to God!

McCullough:

Finally, the day arrived. We had prayed for over two years and on April 3—Easter Sunday—Dedication Day

became a reality. More than 95 believers and visitors filled the sanctuary that morning and over 160 came that afternoon. God had been faithful! We truly praise Him for what He has done.

The church building stands as a physical evidence of God's presence in the community. And it has not ceased to attract the curious and the interested to our services.

When meeting new people now, they immediately associate us with the wooden church by the supermarket. The five months following Dedication Day proved exciting. Every service was attended by at least two new people.

By the end of September 1988 over 55 first-time visitors had come to our church, talked to a Christian worker, and received a gospel booklet. This new building has attracted more people to the gospel than any other evangelistic outreach in St. Nazaire since the beginning of the work 10 years ago. Three new families now attend regularly.

Sanders:

Nothing is insignificant when God urges someone to do it. Madeleine wrote a note. Mr. Michon gave his testimony. Some in the United States gave financially. Many prayed. And as a result, God is glorified in St. Nazaire!

No higher joy or fulfillment can be experienced than to participate in carrying out God's kingdom work. I'm glad I had the privilege!

Tommy Sanders and Dan Farber are involved in construction in Nashville, Tenn. They are both members of Horton Heights FWB Church where Chris Real is pastor. Tom McCullough is a missionary currently on furlough from St. Nazaire, France.

Do miracles still happen today? Yes, they do. We know. We experienced one in Venezuela.

The last tent campaign was just one too many! Either that or the rainy season came one week too early. Anyway, the Casanay campaign was conducted in constant rains.

Many people, eager to hear the gospel preached and see the films, came dashing through the rain, holding their shoes in their hands and a sheet of plastic or cardboard over their heads. Some didn't bother to put their shoes on once they arrived at the tent because numerous small rivulets joined others to form small rivers which snaked their way through the tent.

Many people, eager to hear the gospel preached and see the films, came dashing through the rain.

Soggy clothes and wet shoes were the components of style that week, but no one seemed to care. Warm embraces were often wet embraces as the brethren welcomed friends from the country places and mountain villages.

The week was over and recorded history. In God's Book many new names were written down, those who had received His gift of salvation and had become sons of God.

Now the tent had to move on. The benches were taken apart after the Sunday evening service. We stayed in town overnight, counting on being able to take the tent down the following morning and send it on its way to the next engagement. But the cock's crow and daylight awakened us to the realization that the rain



One Small Miracle

by Elinor Bjornstad

was still drumming on the zinc roofs.

After waiting all morning with no letup in the downpour, we wended our way over the mountains to our home. Perhaps tomorrow. But tomorrow was a repeat of today and so were the following three days. Finally on Thursday morning, my husband ventured, "Maybe over in Casanay the rains have let up." So, he decided to go and see how the tent was faring.

I tried to reason with him. "These rains seem general. You'll only catch a cold. It's impossible to get the canvasses completely dry with such constant rain."

All my reasonings were to no avail. While he was gone, the rains pounded unrelentlessly on our roof as if determined to demolish it.

By late afternoon my husband returned. While he was checking the many pails set to catch the drips in our roof, I warily asked him if his trip to Casanay to

take down the tent was in vain. A profound smile of contentment and satisfaction spread on his face when he answered, "No, the tent is all dry, down, and shipped on its way to Caripe."

"How can that be possible?" I exclaimed. "It's been raining cats and dogs all day long here."

***A patch of blue sky
appeared and the sun
shone through...just
above the tent.***

"On the way over," he explained, "it was raining hard. Black clouds shrouded the mountain peaks. Even when I drove into Casanay, it was still raining. But then, a small patch of blue sky appeared and the sun shone through...just above the tent. And a strong warm wind arose.

"Within three hours, all the waterlogged canvasses and ropes were thoroughly dry and we lowered the tent. Just after

we stored the canvasses in the steel drums, as we were loading everything onto the truck, it started to rain again. I came home in pouring rain."

He had experienced a miracle. The God we serve, He Who controls the universe, sent the sun precisely where it was needed. We were again reassured, "For with God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37).

Elinor Bjornstad is a free-lance writer living in Carupano, Venezuela.

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CUBA!

After 30 Years



(Left to right) Roberto Perez and Gilberto Diaz Triana discuss the Cuban church status with "Mom" Willey and Tom Willey Jr.



Dr. Melvin Worthington (left center), executive secretary of the National Association of FWB, receives a certificate of recognition from Gilberto Diaz Triana, president of the Cuban Association of FWB.

This interview with Dr. Melvin Worthington, executive secretary for the National Association of Free Will Baptists, followed his trip to Cuba September 27-October 7, 1988. He was accompanied by "Mom" Mabel Willey and Tom Willey Jr.

Question: What was the most surprising thing you observed or experienced during your trip to Cuba in September of last year?

Answer: The most surprising thing to me was the healthy, vigorous, enthusiastic church that I found in Cuba. The people were friendly, they were respectful, and they were responsive. I also observed that the country has not had much major repair on buildings or highways, etc., during the past 30 years. Most of the buildings were not painted, and the stores were not bright like we are accustomed to in America. But I was surprised, quite frankly, that

the work which had been done over 40 years ago by missionaries was still going on and God was continually blessing it.

Question: How would you classify the Cuban Free Will Baptist work today?

Answer: I believe the people have a vision of what needs to be done and are really concerned about evangelizing their own people. Frankly, I was surprised to find the good relationship between our work and the government itself. It seems to me that the Cuban Free Will Baptist people have understood how to be in the

midst of the world and not be a part of it. They have discerned how to be good citizens and good Christians at the same time.

Question: What would you say about the churches you were able to visit?

Answer: All of the churches I visited were filled to capacity with people standing around the doorway and around the windows. They were enthusiastic in their singing and very responsive to the preaching. The pastors are apparently well-loved and respected by their people. I found a very healthy relationship between the pastors

and the people.

Had I not known that I was in a country where the gospel was not allowed the freedom granted in the States, I would have been hard pressed to detect it. No limitations are placed on what can be preached or taught in the local church, but Christians cannot witness on the street or have street meetings. They can't go door-to-door or house-to-house as we are accustomed. But within the church buildings, they can worship God after the dictates of their own consciences.

Question: What kind of response did Cuban Christians show to your ministry?

Answer: I felt my ministry was very well received. The comments of Tom Willey Jr., Mrs. Willey, and some of the people after the services indicated they appreciated the ministry of the Word. They longed to know a lot about how Free Will Baptists operate in the United States.

During the minister's retreat I had the privilege of sharing with them our organization, our obligations, our outreach, and our objectives. I also told them a little bit about how the executive office functions.

Overall I believe it was a very successful trip and one that accomplished much good for them and for me. They certainly are a good example of how believers can function as Daniel, Moses, and Joseph functioned in adverse situations. Their circumstances are certainly not conducive to Christian living, but God's grace is proving sufficient.

Question: What relationship to "Mom" Willey and Tom Jr. did the Cubans manifest?

Answer: It was a very warm relationship, one of respect and honor. At each of the services both Tom and Mrs. Willey brought greetings. I suspect the Cubans hold the Willeys in high esteem because of the ministry they had in those early years in Cuba and because of the fruit that remains. Perhaps the Willeys could say "ye are our epistle known and read of all men." The changed lives and the stability of the work at the present time are testimonies to the faithful labors of the Willeys and others who ministered in Cuba.

Question: What would you say about the leadership in the Cuban church?

Answer: I believe the Cuban church has very capable leadership. The deacons and the pastors I met seemed to be capable men. Gilberto (a deacon) is an outstanding layman. Roberto is an outstanding pastor. And I believe the other pastors are high quality men. I am convinced the church in Cuba is in the hands of qualified, responsible leaders.

Question: What is the greatest need in Cuba in your opinion?

Answer: They do not have the luxuries in Cuba that we enjoy in this country, and yet they have learned to cope and live with that. But the greatest need they have, in my opinion, is to re-open the seminary.

The training of future pastors and leaders depends on the seminary. To maintain our work in Cuba, it is essential that we be responsible for our young men and women who will be entering the ministry. So the greatest need is for us to do

what we can to assist them in the rebuilding, the remodeling, the re-establishing of that seminary.

Question: What is the relationship of the church to the Cuban government?

Answer: As I understand it, the Cuban church is registered with the government. From what I saw, they have a very healthy relationship. Although the church does face some restrictions such as having to get permission to hold a youth rally or some special service, I believe they have a good, healthy relationship with the government—one that honors and glorifies God.

Our Cuban Christians seem to have understood, as Daniel understood, that some things within the framework of a society can be participated in without violating one's conscience or the Word of God. Personally, I was impressed with how they understood their relationship, to God and to their government.

Question: What did you observe about the educational system?

Answer: We found 98 percent of the people in Cuba to be literate. The children are required to go to school from Monday through Friday. They board at the school. They are taught Communism, music, and the other academic subjects. According to Roberto, this has not made a difference in the Christian standard of the young people. The grace of God has been sufficient. They are very well trained, and they have no drug or crime problems.

Question: How would you
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classify the effectiveness of the missionary efforts of the Willeys and other missionaries?

Answer: I would say this is perhaps the model that could be used in missionary work. Again, I was deeply impressed with the work that remained. The missionaries have been gone 30 years, many of the leading Christians and pastors have moved to the States, and yet the work is still flourishing. All that I've read about the Willeys and all that I've thought about them over the years certainly proved to be true.

Question: Can we learn any particular lessons from this work?

Answer: Yes, I think we need to learn that to have an effective ministry over the years, the work must be done by the nationals. We should concentrate on reaching the nationals, training the nationals, and letting them reach their own people.

Question: What conclusions would you draw from your observations?

Answer: I was impressed by the fact that these Christians in Cuba love the Word of God, love to hear it preached, and love to hear it taught. I was amazed at how they responded to the preaching of the truth. Some were saved and others were strengthened and encouraged. My trip to Cuba will be one of my lasting memories. I will always cherish it. I was blessed, and encouraged! It caused me to examine my own life, and it gave me a greater appreciation for the work of foreign missions in our denomination.



by Mike Cousineau

I'll long remember Sunday, October 9, 1988! My life and ministry in Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) were challenged as I confronted a Koulango king on the issue of idolatry. The hostility and danger that ensued moved me to seek divine counsel. We realized we were in the midst of great satanic opposition.

When I left Bouna that morning on my Honda 125XL, I had no idea what I would face five hours later. I sang praises to God in an effort to outdo the hum of the engine as I cut across country toward Djorbanedou, 60 miles south of Bouna.

Upon my arrival, I greeted villagers and joined in the church service, conducted by one of three Bible institute students on hand. Following the service, I met with the men of

the church to discuss plans for their first Christian wedding. After lunch I counseled the couple planning to be married.

About 1:30 p.m. the three students and I were accompanied by three Christians from the church as we left for the village of Gbode, where the area Koulango king lives. The previous week a couple of Bible institute students had tried to see him regarding the accusation that the Christians had cursed the ground by working in their fields on Friday, a Koulango holy day.

This matter involves several factors: (1) It concerns two tribal groups—Lobis and Koulangos. The Koulangos have a low regard for the Lobis. (2) The ground in this area belongs to the Koulangos, therefore the Lobis are guests. (3) A guest must abide by the host's wishes.

In this case, one must not work in his fields on Friday. To do so, according to Koulango tradition, would make the ground cursed and the fetish would be offended. To make amends for the offense, a sacrifice must be offered.

With all of this in mind, we crossed several streams en route to the king's village. As usual when arriving in a village, we were asked, "What is your news?" or "Why have you come?"

Many villagers had gathered around and were hurling insults at us.

The man who asked us why we had come later became the king's spokesman. He was a stern man, definitely not polished in the science of communication skills. But, of course, we were the offenders!

The king was notified of our arrival and within five minutes was ready to receive us. We walked the 100 yards or so to the spot where the king was sitting. The large tree above him was teaming with birds making their nests. Just as we arrived and were to be seated, a large snake fell from the tree to the spot where we were to sit. The question flashed across my mind, "Is this the flavor the meeting will take?" For some reason a snake always reminds me of the devil.

All seven of us greeted the king. Then, we were asked for our news. One of the students gave the king our news—our reason for coming. We had come in response to his letter to the Christians.

The king was demanding a

fine of 32 cents from each of the Christians for offending the fetish. The Christians would not pay the fine because they felt they would be participating in the sacrifice which the king would make to appease the fetish.

After explaining to the king the reasons for not being able to pay the fine, the climate became undesirable and tempers began to flare. The king said that God had created the earth, man, and their tribal customs—meaning that God had given them their way of worship (animism or spirit worship).

I spoke up and declared that while God had created the earth and man, He had not given them their way of worship because it violated God's Word. I emphasized that man was to have no other gods before the true God.

After exchanging our thoughts, I realized we were not gaining ground. And by this time, many villagers had gathered around and were hurling insults at us. Several even recommended that we be beaten. Later, I realized this village was the fetish seat for the entire area.

At different moments during our confrontation, I noticed our students praying. I followed suit, for I felt we were moving from the undesirable to the dangerous zone. We immediately asked for "the road" (permission to leave) before possible bloodshed.

The king asked one final question: "Are you going to pay the 32-cent fine?" The response from the Christians was emphatic: "No!"

Finally, the king demanded, "You must leave the area!" I responded by telling the king we

would pray to the living God to change his heart. He did not particularly like that statement.

This confrontation took my mind back to the incident of the three Hebrew children who refused to bow down to the king's idols. He asked them, "...who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?" Their response was, "...we are not careful (do not need) to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up" (Daniel 3:15-18).

The king was demanding a fine from each Christian for his offense to the fetish.

Likewise, the Christians in this area of Cote d'Ivoire are determined not to participate in an idolatrous sacrifice!

We left the village under the order of the king. And the Christians were forced to leave their land, their source of livelihood. But we have transferred this battle to the heavenly hosts. Since then, we have been praying, asking God to intervene.

We want Christians everywhere to join us in praying as we acknowledge, "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will" (Proverbs 21:1).

Mike Cousineau serves with missionary Clint Morgan at the FWB Bible institute in Bouna, Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast).

Special Gifts to Missions

These individuals gave special gifts in July, August, September, October, and November in memory or in honor of friends or loved ones:

Donor	In Memory of
Dwain and Debbie Crosby Nashville, Tenn.	Eula Mae Johnson
James and Barbara Wood Blue Springs, Mo.	Emmett and Ina Wood
Group Operations Dept. American Fidelity Assurance Co. Oklahoma City, Okla.	Matthew Lesley Jarnigan
Mrs. Flora Johnson Flat River, Mo.	Agnes Smith
Dennis and Betty Wiggs New Bern, N.C.	John S. Craft
N.C. WNAC Dallas, N.C.	C. H. Barker
Clyde Settle Aberdeen, Md.	Paul Ketteman
Rev. and Mrs. Buddy Morris Statesboro, Ga.	Sam Wilkinson
Charles and Dee Humphreys Murray, Ky.	Jo Dillard
Mrs. Beatrice Thomas Four Oaks, N.C.	Mr. Lawrence Blackmon

These individuals or groups gave in memory of Mr. Chester Wright:

Bertha Kirby
Nashville, Tenn. Cofers Chapel FWB Church
Nashville, Tenn.

Hattie Pack
Nashville, Tenn.

These individuals or groups gave in memory of Nancy Shackelford:

Melvin and Gean Coffelt
Centerton, Ark. John and Daphne Kinsch
Centerton, Ark.

John and Edna Osbourn
Centerton, Ark. George Jones
Bentonville, Ark.

Johnnie Ware
Centerton, Ark. Roy and Darene Carlson
Bentonville, Ark.

Rev. and Mrs. A. V. Ferguson
Bentonville, Ark.

These individuals or groups gave in memory of Mrs. Mary Hicks:

Vera Hinds
Pamplico, SC. Carroll Poole
Clarksville, Tenn.

Mrs. Wilkie Poole
Clarksville, Tenn. Robert and Bonna Smith
Clarksville, Tenn.

Charles E. Poole
Clarksville, Tenn. Al and Sharon Hughes
Ashland City, Tenn.

Mrs. Vernon Poole
Clarksville, Tenn. Mrs. Edna Poole Baggett
Nashville, Tenn.

These individuals or groups gave in memory of Mr. Donald Cronk:

Alice Woolsey
Greeneville, Tenn. Mr. and Mrs. I. L. Stanley
Greeneville, Tenn.

Pearl Morgan
Greeneville, Tenn.

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 _____



Receipts Top \$500,000

by Jimmy Aldridge
Advance Coordinator

Praise the Lord for His provision through God's wonderful people—our Free Will Baptists across America and overseas! Yes, we have received gifts even from national Christians overseas, as well as from our missionaries serving abroad.

Money has come in children's gifts of love—their pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and dollars. It has come from families who worked it into their budgets, sometimes changing their lifestyles in order to give. Retired people have given from their Social Security checks, and professional people have given as they could.

Gifts have ranged from 25 cents to \$16,500 in size. And every gift is important! Without these combined efforts, we could not have reached the \$500,000 mark.

Let's Go On!

We have good prospects for a strong finish. We can reach the goal! North Carolina Free Will Baptists will join the celebration in February and have their Victory Sunday on March 26, 1989. Many who have made commitments plan to give in the spring quarter of 1989. If each person and church will reach their goal, then we'll reach the denomination's goal.

Grateful Missionaries

Tom and Patty McCullough have just returned from St. Nazaire, France. They are key members of our church-planting team in that area of France. An Advance revolving church loan fund enabled that thriving congregation to purchase property and erect a church building. It is the first and only Bible-preaching Protestant church in all

Three Year Goal

Hallelujah Goal
\$1,100,000
Victory Goal
\$1,000,000

\$500,000

of the northwestern region called Brittany to have its own building for worship.

According to Tom, "More than 95 members and visitors attended our opening service on Easter Sunday, April 3, 1988. Over 160 people came for the afternoon dedication service. By the end of September over 55 first-time visitors had attended. Three new families now attend regularly, two of whose members have been saved. Average attendance is up from 35 in the rented storefront building to 50 in the new building. And we have enjoyed heretofore unheard of respect and acceptance in the community."

New Vision

And most of all, the church and missionary team have a new vision to make the Free Will Baptist church at St. Nazaire a lighthouse of truth. They plan to mount an aggressive campaign of evangelism to the surrounding villages and towns that have absolutely no gospel witness.

"Without Advance, and the help of a team of Master's Men builders, we would still be in our rented storefront building battling against the odds," says McCullough. "And we would still be perceived as a cult seeking to build a Free Will Baptist church in St. Nazaire."

Advance funds are already making a major impact on several of our fields. And many exciting prospects are in front of us. By giving, we are making an investment in the eternal destiny of people and helping to anchor the church of Jesus Christ in the hearts of Catholic, Animist, Buddhist, Muslim, and Hindu populations. These desperately need our witness!

Let's go on to Victory!

Financial Summary

Through November 30

\$ubstance

Total income for November	\$ 310,903.27
Total income through November	2,889,566.95
Total disbursements through November	2,710,002.18
Projected income through November	2,920,522.00
Total 1988 Budget	\$3,186,036.00
Advance gifts through November	\$ 158,330.98
1988 ADVANCE Budget	\$ 150,000.00

\$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Bishop	\$ 5,356.24	Nichols	\$ 9,281.24
Combs	1,316.75	Payne	3,250.59
Crowson	8,615.53	Poole	48.87
Eagleton, Sr.	7,820.18	Richards	2,855.79
Franks	5,668.51	Smith, J.	3,996.01
Gilliland	393.91	Sparks	3,318.31
Hersey	2,347.12	Turnbough	3,424.75
Lee	2,061.18	West	2,542.75
McCullough	13,535.77	Willey	2,852.44
Midgett	10,681.89	I.C. Hosp.	2,223.01
Morgan	2,693.29	Spec. Com.	19,187.87
Total			\$113,472.00

State Goals—1988

State	Goal 1988	Goal Through November	Contributions Through November
Alabama	\$ 195,000	\$ 178,750	\$ 136,196.85
Arizona	4,500	4,125	4,131.06
Arkansas	168,000	154,000	136,799.50
California	54,000	49,500	53,023.30
Colorado	3,500	3,208	3,538.27
Florida	100,000	91,667	81,957.03
Georgia	120,000	110,000	130,401.17
Hawaii	2,500	2,292	1,675.00
Idaho	750	688	755.99
Illinois	101,000	92,583	90,164.93
Indiana	36,000	33,000	29,451.05
Iowa	1,500	1,375	2,207.70
Kansas	14,000	12,833	16,092.80
Kentucky	80,000	73,333	63,319.53
Louisiana	600	550	50.00
Maryland	15,000	13,750	14,095.42
Michigan	141,000	129,250	109,760.25
Mississippi	72,000	66,000	48,947.66
Missouri	215,000	197,083	224,961.98
Montana	1,000	917	385.00
Nevada	1,000	917	778.00
New Mexico	500	458	378.91
*Northeast Assn.	7,000	6,417	3,171.30
**Northwest Assn.	5,700	5,225	2,801.80
North Carolina	385,000	352,917	377,578.25
Ohio	125,000	114,583	87,246.16
Oklahoma	378,000	346,500	316,093.93
Pennsylvania	2,000	1,833	1,700.00
South Carolina	200,000	183,333	161,427.29
Tennessee	415,000	380,417	433,068.86
Texas	97,000	88,917	92,918.70
Virginia	111,000	101,750	120,335.32
Virgin Islands	3,000	2,750	1,954.00
West Virginia	75,000	68,750	64,295.47
Miscellaneous	55,486	50,862	77,829.47
Totals	\$3,186,036	\$2,920,533	\$2,889,491.95

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

**Northwest Association
Alaska, Oregon, and Washington

Sparks Reports Opening of Second School Year

Spain—Missionary Lonnie Sparks wrote in September that the Free Will Baptist church in Alcala de Henares, Spain, was about to launch another year of Christian school.

"This is our second year, and it looks like we will have around 16-17 students," writes Lonnie. "We foresee a steady growth from year to year as people recognize the value of such a school."

Montevideo Church Marks Its Fifth Anniversary

Uruguay—According to a telephone report from missionary Marcia Ellison in Uruguay, the Montevideo Free Will Baptist Church celebrated its fifth anniversary on October 29 and 30 with Horacio Paysee as the special speaker.

Marcia indicated attendance for the celebration was "good" with a high attendance of something over 80. Many visitors were on hand for the celebration, and the Bible students from the Sower Bible Institute provided special music for the occasion.

Martin, the young student who had suffered a crushed arm earlier this year, led the singing.



Pastor Carl Callahan (left) of Centerview FWB Church in Newport, Tenn., stands with missionary representative Don Sexton (center) as he receives a jar of money from Darrell Lane, a layman in the church.

East Tennessee Church Collects Money in Jar

Newport, Tenn.—Centerview Free Will Baptist Church in Newport, Tenn., took part in a recent missionary conference involving 24 churches with 10 missionaries. Pastor Carl Callahan reported the missionary offering in the church came to \$1,000.

According to Pastor Callahan, the church was able to fill a large jar about halfway with change. When the

money was counted, it came to \$480. The church also filled 85 quarter folders.

Reports indicated nine of the missionaries received \$660 and one missionary received \$987 from the overall conference.

Board Reinstates Aycocks and Approves 11 Others

Nashville, Tenn.—The Board of Foreign Missions convened in Nashville, Tenn., December 5-8 for its semianual session. All members were present except William Reagan, the newest board member. Bill was unable to attend due to a heart condition which left him facing possible emergency surgery.

Included in action taken by the board was the reinstatement of former missionaries Bobby and Sue Aycock to service in Brazil.

Nine student missionaries were appointed and one couple was approved as missionary affiliates in Germany.

February 1, 1989, was designated as a Day of Prayer and Fasting for missionary ministries.

Missionary appointees Dwain and Debbie Crosby were asked to consider service in another field due to the unprecedented rise in costs in Japan. The foreign missions staff and board have sensed the Holy Spirit using the financial circumstances to indicate a change in direction for their ministry. Dwain and Debbie have agreed and are praying for God's guidance.

Student missionaries appointed

This Year Plan Ahead for a Gigantic World Missions Offering on Foreign Missions Sunday

Churches and individuals have discovered the simplicity and the effectiveness of "Quarter Savers" for giving to foreign missions outreach.

Remember, April is Foreign Missions Month

Order plenty of "April Quarters" coin folders now so you can fill them in time for Foreign Missions Sunday, April 30, 1989.

Get videotapes of mission work on the fields and plan to have missionaries in the church during the month.

Make a month-long effort to help this World Missions Offering be the largest ever received by Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions.

You can still call 615/361-1010 between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in your time zone to report your special offering.

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Bobby and Sue Aycock have been reinstated as missionaries to Brazil.



Technical Sergeant Dennis Heath and his wife, Mary Jo, have been approved as missionary affiliates in West Germany.

were Rachael Burgess of Powhatan, Va., and Judi Cagle of Lincoln Park, Mich., to serve in St. Nazaire, France, with Jerry and Barbara Gibbs. Serving in Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) will be Darrell Testerman of Owasso, Okla., who will work with Robert and Judy Bryan in Abidjan, and Joel and Hope Nason of Taylors, S.C., who are assigned to the Dr. Kenneth Eagletons in Doropo.

In Japan Wendy Grindstaff of Elizabethton, Tenn., and Sherry Sifers of Cleveland, Oh., will help Judy Smith at Kita Hiroshima. Vicky Christy of Ashland City, Tenn., will be with Ken and Judy Bailey at Iriso in the Tokyo area.

Joshua Lopez of Miami, Fla., will work with Walter and Marcia Ellison in Montevideo, Uruguay.

Approved as overseas affiliates were Technical Sergeant Dennis and Mary Jo Heath of Melbourne, Fla. Dennis, a licensed Free Will Baptist preacher, is in the United States Air Force in West Germany. The couple will seek to establish a work at the Langerkopft Radio Relay Site.

Bobby and Sue Aycock will be returning to missionary status after serving five years teaching missions at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville and following one and one-half years pastoring Unity Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville, N.C.

Bishop Reports Three Baptized in Sapporo

Japan—Missionary Dale Bishop reports two people were recently baptized into the fellowship of the Koinonia Free Will Baptist Church in Nopporo, a suburb of Sapporo, Japan.

Mr. Masaki, a 22-year-old college student, was reached through English classes. Miss Noriko Asanuma, a 25-year-old dental assistant, was a friend of a church member.

In addition to these two who were baptized, Mrs. Minami was also baptized in a sister church in the Sapporo area. She is a convert from Mormonism. Sandra Bishop had worked with the lady for over a year.

Since September, Dale has been traveling across the island of Hokkaido to the Abashiri church where Kurosaki had been pastoring. The pastor has resigned for health reasons.

Dale requested prayer for Mr. Kudo in Abashiri who has been searching for the truth through many different religious sects. "He could not understand why Jesus had to die to forgive man's sins," writes Dale. "After I explained it, Kudo said, 'That's the first time I ever understood why Christ had to die on the cross.' Please remember to pray that Mr. Kudo will accept Christ as his Savior."

Eagleton Steering Fails with Delegates Aboard

Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)—In early November Dr. Kenneth Eagleton was returning to Doropo from an association meeting in Bouna with a car loaded with church delegates when his automobile steering column was damaged.

"Thank God our car kept going straight while I tried to stop it," writes Dr. Eagleton. "We only veered off the road as I was almost stopped. A truck was coming in the opposite direction, but we were able to stop the car before he got to us."

Eagleton noted that missionary Robert West was following his vehicle. Robert went on to Doropo to get a part which he had previously rebuilt. Then he returned and repaired the vehicle.

Kenneth reported October to be the busiest month at the hospital for the entire year. "We had 1,274 consultations, 59 admissions to the hospital or clinic, and 25 baby deliveries," writes Dr. Kenneth.

The doctor expressed praise for the presence of Carolyn Sharp, an X-ray technician from Alma, Ark., who went to Cote d'Ivoire for two months to train national Christians to operate the hospital's X-ray equipment.

Six Students Graduate from Bible Institute

Uruguay—Six students graduated from the Sower Bible Institute in Montevideo, Uruguay, on December 3, 1988.

According to missionary Walter Ellison, those graduating include Ruben, Daniel, Martin, Nancy, Lilian, and Gerardo.

Ellison noted that "Ruben is probably the best preacher and he plans to go back to the 'frontera' (Rivera area). I know Paul Robinson will be thrilled."

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Moultrie, Ga.—MKs Kevin and Penny Wilkinson became parents of twins—a girl and a boy—born on November 29 in Moultrie, Ga. The girl, Autry Jane, weighed eight pounds 12 ounces while the boy, Benjamin Edward, weighed nine pounds 10 ounces. Kevin is the son of former missionaries Sam and June Wilkinson while Penny is the daughter of former missionaries Herbert and Geraldine Waid.



Molly Barker

Morehead City, N.C.—Missionary Molly Barker is scheduled to return to Uruguay around the middle of January.

France—Missionary Steve Riggs expressed sorrow recently when he reported Jeannine Coche had stated she would not be returning to services. She said she does not agree that Jesus is the only way one can go to heaven. The Riggs had requested prayer for Jeannine and her daughter,

Continued on page 14—>



Dennis and Carol Teague have returned to France.

—>Continued from page 13
Aurelia, on other occasions. He asked people to continue praying on their behalf.

Nashville, Tenn.—Dennis and Carol Teague have been given clearance to return to France. They were scheduled to depart near the end of December. They will be working in St. Sebastien, a suburb of Nantes.

Spain—Jeff and Susan Turnbough have requested prayer for Matthew, their son, who has been diagnosed to have a mild form of epilepsy. "The neurologist said we don't have to worry and that it is treatable," writes Jeff. "With daily medication, he hopes to cure it within three to four years."

Brazil—"Recently we have had the privilege of witnessing to five more couples and Earnie to two long-time friends," writes Jean Deeds from Brazil. "We have known some of these folks for years but they were closed to a presentation of the gospel. We praise God for this open door."

Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)—Clint Morgan writes from Bouna: "We have just begun our second year at the Bible institute. All 10 students are back with very good attitudes and are out each weekend teaching and preaching. Eighty-six people came to the Lord last year as a result of their outreach."

Spain—The Villalba FWB Church in Spain celebrated its fourth anniversary on Sunday, November 13, with approximately 90 people present. According to missionary Steve Reeves, all of these were from the Villalba area. Most visitors were family or friends of church members.

Bixby, Okla.—Ernest and Elaine Holland are scheduled to leave on January 5 en route to Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast).

Uruguay—In a telephone conversation with missionary Marcia Ellison in

Montevideo, Uruguay, the foreign missions office learned that over 80 people attended a film showing at the Malvin Norte church on December 11. This work is under the direction of Gerardo Rodriguez while the Rick Bowling family is on furlough.



Eddie Payne

Nashville, Tenn.—Former missionary Eddie Payne was scheduled to leave for Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) on December 29. He was accompanied by Pastor James Johnson of Osaka FWB Church in Flomaton, Ala. Eddie will be teaching in the Bible institute at Bouna and doing some videotaping in various areas of Cote d'Ivoire. The two men are expected to return on March 4.



Mike Nabors

Cookeville, Tenn.—Mike Nabors of Cookeville, Tenn., is scheduled to depart on January 6 for Nantes, France, where he will serve as a short-term missionary working with John and Pansy Murray and the other missionaries in the area. Mike, a student at Free Will Baptist Bible College, was approved at the August 1988 meeting of the Board of Foreign Missions. He will return to the United States on March 17.

Three Churches Team for Village Evangelism Effort

Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)—The Free Will Baptist churches of Goumère, Tanda, and Agnibiekrou in Cote d'Ivoire recently combined efforts to hold a three-night evangelistic campaign in the village of Yebouakrou.

This village is located about one hour by car from Agnibiekrou.

According to missionary Alice Smith, several people made decisions to follow Christ during the campaign. She urged Christians to pray for Norman Richards as he goes there each week to preach. "It is our prayer that a strong, witnessing church be planted in this place," writes Alice.

Miss Smith noted that she had a fruitful ministry with the children in Yebouakrou. "A young man stood nearby, watching and listening," says Alice. "He later said to me, 'Miss, if everyone in the world were a child, then surely everyone would be a Christian. They are so eager and willing to listen and to believe in Jesus.' This reminded me of Christ's words, 'Suffer the little children to come unto me. . . .'"

Hughes Buys Land for New Church Building

Brazil—"We have bought choice land across from the community square and hope to build in the near future," writes Tom Hughes from Uberlandia, Brazil. He was referring to the new work started in Jardim das Palmeiras (Palm Garden).

According to Tom, the land is in a choice location and is about 900 square meters in size. Hughes indicated Joaquim, the bricklayer who was saved during the construction of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Uberlandia, will be able to act as foreman and bricklayer for the new building.

Hughes rejoiced that two more people had made decisions for Christ at the First Church on Sunday, November 13. He declared 17 have made decisions during the past year.

Auto Accident Mars Tallent Return to Field

Russellville, Ark.—Keith Tallent, brother of missionary Charolette Tallent, and his family were involved in an automobile accident on Thursday, November 24, near Russellville, Ark. The van in which they were traveling overturned as they were en route to Kansas for Thanksgiving holidays.

Charolette was preparing to leave for France when the accident occurred. Although she was deeply concerned with the family's well being, Charolette did depart on November 26 after having been

delayed several months due to support needs.

Charolette's sister-in-law, Alice, suffered fractures in the neck and arm. She underwent surgery on November 28 to fuse a bone in the neck. She will be in a body cast for some time.

Miss Tallent's niece, Hope, suffered a broken shoulder, two broken arms, and a concussion.

Charolette's brother, Keith, suffered a broken shoulder. Reports indicated the two other children sustained only minor injuries.

California Women Rally to Aid Crosby Account

Campbell, Calif.—Women from the State of California woman's auxiliaries set a goal of \$4,000 to help the Dwain Crosbys get to the mission field. In November California women gave a total of \$2,700 to the Crosby account.

On November 20, at Campbell FWB Church, Campbell, Calif., auxiliary president Kathy Bowers presented Dwain and Debbie Crosby a check for \$1,000. The ladies held a bazaar on November 12 to raise the funds, so they also presented Debbie with some gifts from the bazaar.

Turnbough Starts Bible Studies, Bible Institute

Spain—Since the Villalba church has been blessed by having two professional soccer players and their families from Brazil attending the church, Jeff Turnbough has been able to start an evangelistic Bible study on Thursday evenings with players from the soccer team. "These guys have a vision of reaching their teammates for Christ!" writes Jeff.

Turnbough also noted that the Bible institute program in the local church was launched with 14 students enrolled. Three of these feel the Lord is calling them to preach.

Indiana Church Conducts Quarter Saver Campaign

New Castle, Ind.—The First Bible Free Will Baptist Church in New Castle, Ind., recently raised \$501.66 for mission projects through a special "quarters for missions" campaign which started October 2, 1988.

"Our original goal was to raise \$75 in quarters on a special board," explained Marla Ritchie, originator of the board idea and president of the

church's Dorcas Auxiliary. "During the October 2 worship service, the pastor (Jim Mullen) challenged the women, saying that the men would fill their side of the board before the women, and then the race was on."

The smallest children to the oldest members of the church became caught up in the challenge. "You would find everyone clustered around the board," said Mary Neal, Indiana state president of the woman's auxiliary and Woman's National Auxiliary president. Mrs. Neal, who is also a member of the First Bible FWB Church, began the district mission project several years ago.

Pastor Jim Mullen says, "The thing that impressed me the most about the whole thing is that the Bible said we should be cheerful givers—the exact translation is hilarious givers. This is the first time in my ministry that I've seen people excited and giving cheerfully and hilariously."

"We filled the board totally three times," Mrs. Ritchie said. "I had to keep calling mission headquarters for more quarter folders."

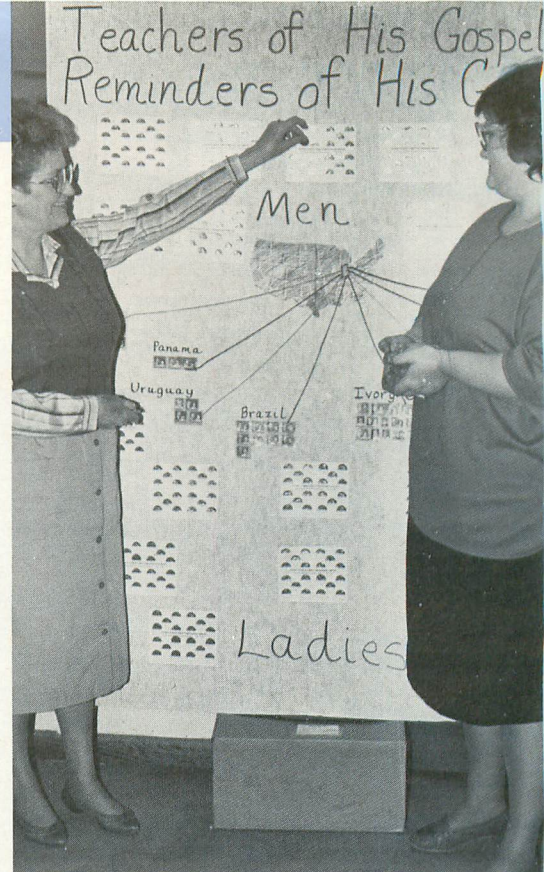
The event caused so much excitement that the local newspaper, *The Courier-Times*, featured the event in a very nice six-column article including the photo above which was supplied by the paper.

Christmas Programs Set at Kita Hiroshima

Japan—Several Christmas programs were planned at the Kita Hiroshima church in a suburb of Sapporo, Japan, according to missionary Judy Smith. A puppet show entitled "Mary Had a Little Lamb" was to be put on by the children's Sunday school class.

On December 20, the ladies in Judy's Tuesday afternoon English classes and the students in her Thursday morning guitar classes were scheduled to present a Christmas play entitled "The Very Best Wish of All." Ladies from the Saturday morning cooking class were to help make up the audience.

Judy reported having started a Friday afternoon Bible study with students from Hokusei University. "So far, I've had 17 students, nine who have come every time without missing," says Judy. "Most of them are very open about what they believe and about what they don't believe. I have real freedom with them to share the gospel."



National WNAC President Mary Neal (left) and Dorcas Auxiliary President Marla Ritchie (right) count quarters for missions given in a special campaign of the First Bible FWB Church of New Castle, Ind.

Day of Fasting and Prayer

Join the foreign missions team in a day of fasting and prayer for foreign missions ministries.

Missionaries need God's power, His protection, and an overwhelming sense of His presence as they minister to unreached people abroad.

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