

JUNE 1989

# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world

*Fruits* OF THE  
HARVEST



Some of the 68 people who attended Easter services at St. Nazaire, France, stand at the church entrance.

## 68 People Attend Easter Services at St. Nazaire

France—According to missionary Jerry Gibbs, 68 people were on hand for Easter services at the Free Will Baptist church in St. Nazaire, France. The church continues to show signs of growth following the construction of the new church building.

Gibbs noted that a team of 15 college students distributed invitations in St. Nazaire to a concert-evangelistic meeting held in the church on May 7.

## Board Meets, Appoints Two Missionary Couples

Nashville, Tenn.—Two couples were appointed to missionary service when the Board of Foreign Missions met in Nashville, Tenn., April 24-26 in its annual session.

Paul and Rhoda Creech of Nashville, Tenn., were tentatively approved as short-term missionaries to serve two years as dorm parents at Ivory Coast Academy in Bouake, Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), West Africa. They will replace Jim and Evelyn Teague in the summer of 1990.

Mark and Juli Riggs of Virginia Beach, Va., were approved as associate missionaries to Spain subject to a satisfactory physical examination. They plan to begin deputation in September to raise their support.

Other action of the board included the adoption of a proposed budget for 1990 of \$3,517,152. This is subject to the approval of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

The 1988 foreign missions audit was approved.

The board set in motion a new plan to have every board member visit a foreign field once during each six-year term.

Officers of the board remained the same for 1989-90: Bill Jones, chairman; Norwood Gibson, vice chairman; and Galen Dunbar, secretary.

## Susan Turnbough Has Accident, Injures Back

Spain—Missionary Susan Turnbough ran off the road at about 3:00 a.m. on May 8 as she was driving the family van to pick up a Christian lady and take her to the hospital in Madrid,



Paul and Rhoda Creech are to serve as dorm parents in Bouake, Cote d'Ivoire.



Mark and Juli Riggs will go to Spain under the associate missionary program.

Spain, to have her baby. Doctors told Susan she has a crushed vertebrae in her back.

Susan's husband, Jeff, indicated his wife prayed that someone would come by to take her to pick up Pilar (the pregnant lady) and take her to the hospital. In about two minutes someone came with a chain and pulled the van out of the ditch.

Susan took the woman to the hospital before being checked for her own injuries. She has been ordered to have complete bed rest for six or eight weeks. Susan's mother, Martha Crowson, arrived in Madrid on May 12 and plans to remain approximately three and one-half weeks.

## Troublemaker Converted After Richards Preached

Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)—On April 14, according to a report from missionaries Norman and Bessie Richards at Agnibilekrou in Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa, a Baoule man and his wife at Yebouakro asked if they could receive the Lord. Norman had just preached in the village.

"He is the village drunk and troublemaker," Norman declared of the man. "If his life is really given to the Lord, he can be one of the most effective witnesses in that village which is just opening to the gospel. Pray for this family."

The Richards also revealed that a new convert at Yaonango has been facing opposition from his family. He has refused to renounce his faith, so the family has rejected him.

Norman and Bessie are tentatively planning to begin furlough around July 10.

## Bishops Request Prayer, Prepare for Furlough

Japan—Missionaries Dale and Sandra Bishop have requested prayer for several people from the Koinonia Free Will Baptist Church in the Ebetsu area of northern Japan. "Pray for the salvation of Kenji Hosokawa, a 20-year-old young man who attends some church activities; Mrs. Kitano, a housewife and mother of two; and for Tsutomu Wada, a young man in his early thirties who became blind a couple of years ago.

Dale and Sandra plan to return to the United States to begin furlough sometime near the latter part of June. They requested prayer for the Koino-

nia church during the transition and for Jerry and Janice Banks who are to return to the field and assume responsibility for the work while the Bishops fulfill their stateside ministry.

## New Islampur Church Dedicated on April 8

**India**—The new church building at Islampur, North India, was dedicated on April 8 in the afternoon. Ohio Free Will Baptist churches had raised the money for the new building.

"The church building was packed and the veranda was full for the service," writes missionary Carlisle Hanna. "After the opening of the doors and the dedication of the building, four of our pastors gave brief messages and I gave the main message.

"After that, we had Pastor David and his wife, Zaitun, and their children kneel at the altar. All of the deacons, pastors, and members came around them and we dedicated them anew to Christ."

Carlisle concluded by saying, "We are deeply grateful for our precious people in Ohio who gave so liberally and quickly so we could have this building."

## Betania Church Holds March VBS Program

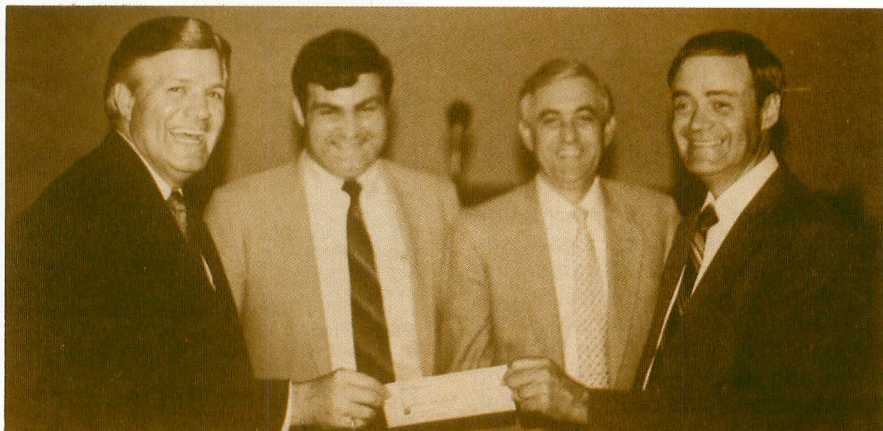
**Panama**—The Betania Free Will Baptist Church, in a suburb of Panama City, held a vacation Bible school during the last week in March with an average attendance of 65 for the week.

"Sixteen of the children accepted the Lord Jesus as their personal Savior," write Steve and Judy Lytle. "This made all the effort worthwhile." The Lytles reported 114 people on hand for Sunday school on the morning of the commencement program for VBS.

## "Bowling Day" Exceeds Goals at Sylvan Park

**Nashville, Tenn.**—April 16 was set aside as "Rick Bowling Day" at Sylvan Park Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tenn. The church honored Rick and Linda Bowling by presenting flowers from the woman's auxiliary and Master's Men. Then, they capped the day off with \$636 in monthly faith promises and \$1,140.15 in cash. The church had set a goal of \$500 in faith promises and \$1,000 in cash.

The pastor, Reverend John Gibbs, also planned another surprise for the



Pastor John Gibbs (left) presents missionary Rick Bowling a check from the Sylvan Park FWB Church in Nashville, Tenn., while two deacons observe.

Bowlings during the Sunday evening service: The Northside Free Will Baptist Church of Bowling Green, Ky., joined the Sylvan Park church for the service. Bowling was a former pastor of Northside, so a total of 48 people from the church, including Pastor Roy Swisher, were on hand.

The Bowlings were also presented with a personal cash gift.

According to the foreign missions finance department, Rick and Linda still lack \$8,000 cash in their account to be able to depart for Uruguay by the end of August.

## Mini Reports from Around the Globe

**Clemson, S.C.**—Mark Hanna, son of missionaries Carlisle and Marie Hanna, received his Ph.D. in Industrial Management from Clemson University on May 12. He has accepted an offer to teach at the university next year. He will be Visiting Assistant Professor.

**Brazil**—Missionaries Jim and Shirley Combs plan to return to the United States to begin furlough around July 6.

**Panama**—The Agua Buena Free Will Baptist Church in Panama hosted a month of intensive evangelism/discipleship training during April. Between eight and ten of the young people from Betania received training and practical experience in soulwinning and discipling during the program.

**Columbia, Mo.**—Alicia Bunch, six-year-old daughter of Stan and Brenda Bunch, is scheduled to undergo surgery on her hip and foot on June 6.

She is to enter Columbia Hospital in Columbia, Mo., on June 5. The Bunches returned to the United States from Panama in April.

**Collinsville, Okla.**—Miss Arilla Wode, who came home from Cote d'Ivoire in April due to health needs, has been diagnosed as having tuberculosis—a strain different to that found in the United States. She will need much rest during the next year.

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Jimmy Aldridge, overseas secretary/advance coordinator for foreign missions, has reported receiving statistics from Cuba and the eight countries where missionaries are currently active. The reports indicated a total of at least 6,637 people present for services on Roll Call Sunday, March 26, 1989.

**Tulsa, Okla.**—Steve and Linda Reeves arrived in Tulsa, Okla., from Spain on May 17. Linda was admitted to the

*Continued on back page* →

## Financial Summary

### Through April 30

#### \$ubstance

Total income for April .....	\$ 281,944.31
Total income through April .....	1,057,430.55
Total disbursements through April .....	1,038,519.87
Projected income through April .....	1,093,138.00
Total 1989 Budget .....	<b>\$3,279,414.00</b>
ADVANCE gifts through April .....	\$ 38,053.02
1989 ADVANCE Budget .....	<b>\$ 150,000.00</b>

#### \$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:			
Bishop .....	\$ 1,381.56	Sparks .....	\$ 5,846.65
Cousineau .....	4,317.90	Turnbough .....	5,284.78
Eagleton, Sr. ....	16,653.29	West .....	5,178.45
Midgett .....	5,465.28	Willey .....	1,946.63
Poolle .....	1,498.70	I.C. Hosp. ....	428.99
Smith, J. ....	5,878.36	Spec. Com. ....	19,187.87
Total .....			<b>\$73,068.46</b>

—>Continued from inside hospital where she delivered a still-born baby girl on May 19. The baby, Stephanie Dawn, weighed one pound nine ounces. Graveside services for the child were held on May 22 in Tulsa.

**Brazil**—According to information recently received by missionary Ken Eagleton, the church in Araras, Brazil, has increased as much as 50 percent since the Eagletons left for furlough. "There have been about 10 saved and three men have gone to study full time in the central Bible college," Eagleton declared.

**Ashland, Ky.**—The junior class at New Buckley Road Free Will Baptist Church in Ashland, Ky., sponsored a special "Pennies from Hearts Full of Love" effort in March on behalf of Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson in Cote d'Ivoire. The juniors raised \$127.20. "The children had fun doing this project," says their sponsor, Mary Moore. "It helped them understand the need for everyone to support missions."

**Michael Afdon (left) and Chuck McKnight stand by a poster which was part of their "Pennies from Hearts Full of Love" project at New Buckley Road FWB Church in Ashland, Ky.**



**Missionaries Bobby and Sue Aycock (left) receive a check from Lester Adams, church treasurer of Unity FWB Church in Greenville, N.C.**

## Unity Church Rallies for Departing Pastor Aycock

**Greenville, N.C.**—The Unity Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville, N.C., honored their parting pastor and his wife, reinstated missionaries Bobby and Sue Aycock, on their last Sunday, January 29. At the close of the service the church took up a special offering for their missionary account.

The chairman of the deacon board and church treasurer, Lester Adams, subsequently presented the couple with a check in the amount of \$2,568 to help them get back to Brazil.

## Smith Reports Friend's Conversion and Baptism

**Japan**—"On March 9, Machiko Yoshida—one of my former neighbors—accepted the Lord during our weekly morning Bible study time," writes Judy Smith from Hokkaido, Japan. "We're all really excited about her salvation. For the past year or so she's been studying the Bible in our Tuesday Bible study."

Mrs. Yoshida was baptized on Easter Sunday morning.

According to Miss Smith, Machiko is in her thirties and she and her husband, a dentist, have one son, who is in the third grade. The boy attends Sunday school.

"A couple of years ago, when my car hit a man on a bicycle, she (Machiko) and her husband helped me through all the problems and red tape," Judy continued. "God used that accident to help get Machiko interested in coming to some of the things at our church."

## Central Bible College Victimized by Burglars

**Brazil**—Burglars broke into the library at the central Bible college in Jaboticabal, Brazil, on April 2. The culprits carried off a computer, printer, diskette box, Bible college T-shirts, several shelves of paper goods and school supplies, a slide projector and slides, tape recorder-radio, and even the trash box.

Police, detectives, and photographers responded to the notice of the incident but at last report nothing had been recovered.

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