


MARCH 1989

# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world



*"Lift up your  
eyes, and look  
on the fields;  
for they are  
white already  
to harvest."*

—John 4:35b

**April is  
Foreign  
Missions  
Month**



## Deeds Baptizes Six, 200 Attend Christmas Program

*Brazil*—Over 200 people were present for a special Christmas program at the church in Conselheiro Lafaiete on December 18, according to missionary Earnie Deeds.

"In our last newsletter we asked prayer for Wiler (rhymes with healer)," writes Earnie. "Not long after that, he made the decision to accept Christ as Savior and Lord. He and five others were baptized on Christmas morning here."

The Deeds requested prayer for Ilza, Wiler's wife, and for Patricio, a cardiologist who recently visited the church.

## Pennsylvania Church Has First Missions Conference

*New Oxford, Penn.*—The Truth Free Will Baptist Church in New Oxford, Penn., held its first foreign missions conference October 14 and 15, 1988, with Lynn Midgett of Spain, Larry Inscocoe of Panama, and Jim Sturgill of Brazil as missionary representatives.

According to Lois Becker, church clerk, eight other churches were represented during the conference. Offerings for this first conference totaled \$821 and annual faith promises totaled \$1,305.

A trio from Southeastern Free Will Baptist College was also on hand for the services.

The theme for the conference was "A Heart to Change the World!"

## Institute Extension Said Effective in Panama

*Panama*—"We just finished our first trimester of the Bible institute here in the interior," writes Stan Bunch from Parita, Panama. "There were 14 who took the courses of doctrine and hermeneutics. What a challenge! We plan to start the second trimester this month (January)."

Bunch noted the work in Parita is progressing well. Ten children recently received Christ as Savior during Bible club and four adults have been saved in the last few weeks of 1988.

"Manuel, the brother who was in discipline, is a real champ," Stan continued. "God is using him in a tremendous way. It has been over a year and three months since he has touched a drop of liquor. His testimony is undeniable proof of the life-changing power of the gospel. The whole com-



Students from Hokusei University in northern Japan gather around their teacher and friend, Judy Smith (center), in her apartment.

munity knew him as a drunk. Not anymore. He walks the streets with his Bible under his arm and shares Christ with those who will listen."

The Bunches requested prayer as they wind up this term and prepare for furlough about April 15.

## Robinson Says Special Services Reap Results

*Uruguay*—"A very well-known pastor/evangelist from Montevideo brought tremendous messages," writes Paul Robinson from Rivera, Uruguay, regarding a series of special services held in December. "Many were to strengthen the believers yet there were some hungry souls that found the Lord Jesus, one of these being an 82-year-old widow. One of our dear ladies had been witnessing to this precious soul over 10 years. It finally paid off."

Paul expressed praise that five of the six graduates from the Bible institute in Montevideo on December 3 were from the work in Rivera.

## McDonalds Teach 35 in Various English Classes

*Japan*—Don and Ruth McDonald, who recently finished language study, have joined Pastor Toshikazu Kawasaki at the Ai No Sato Free Will Baptist Church on the northern island of Hokkaido, Japan.

"We are teaching 35 students in four different English classes at the church," write the McDonalds. "We end each class with a 15-minute Bible study in Japanese. We are teaching

things like, Who made the world?, What's God like?, Who is Jesus?, and Why study the Bible?"

Don preaches once a month in the church and he and Ruth work in Sunday school and the music program.

The church recently began a woman's auxiliary and Ruth is teaching from the book "What Happens When Women Pray."

The McDonalds are studying part-time at Overseas Missionary Fellowship language school. They hope to gain some religious vocabulary to help them in their ministry.

## Judy Smith Reaches Out Through Student Ministry

*Japan*—On December 9 and 10 missionary Judy Smith hosted a large number of students from her classes at Hokusei University on the island of Hokkaido, Japan. "Although I've been having a Bible study with between 12 and 16 of these students at the university each week, this was a great opportunity to share the true meaning of Christmas and why I came to Japan with all the others," writes Judy.

Smith had some 30 students in her apartment for one night and 19 for the next evening.

Regarding services at Kita Hiroshima Chapel, Judy noted that 20 first-time visitors attended a special Christmas drama presented by her English and guitar students on December 20.

"There were new faces at our Christmas Eve worship and during the services at our church all the next



day," Judy declared. "And once again, on New Year's Day every chair was filled as the visitors continued to come."

Miss Smith asked people to continue praying for her Filipino friend, Agnes, whose husband was recently released from prison. The ex-convict has faced some very difficult times with his former "Mafia" associates. "Pray for Madoka's salvation and that he'll ask the police for help," Judy pleaded.

## Donors Advised About Tax-Deductible Gifts

*Nashville, Tenn.*—In consultation with an accountant, the Department of Foreign Missions issued a statement in January to help clarify the best way for donors to designate tax-deductible gifts to missions. This statement was precipitated by reports that some had been denied tax deductions due to personal designations.

R. Eugene Waddell, general director, says, "We are grateful that the United States government allows tax deductions for gifts to missions. However, when a donor gives to a particular missionary account, he must be aware that his gift is actually given to Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions. It is to be used in the ministry of that particular missionary but does not go to that individual."

Mr. Waddell noted, "It is important that the donor indicate the distinction when sending his or her gift. Our office provides a blue response slip for the convenience of supporters. The check should not be made out to the missionary nor specified as 'for missionary John Doe' on the check itself."

When a missionary's service is discontinued, the funds designated for his or her ministry will be used for other missionary work. In the same manner, when any project is fully underwritten, excess funds will be used to support a similar missionary project.

## Agnibilekrou Work Grows, Seeks Church Property

*Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)*—"Our average church attendance was 84," writes missionary Arilla Wode regarding 1988 at Agnibilekrou, Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa. Approximately 150 people crowded the building for a special Christmas morning service.

"If all our Sunday school students

stayed for church services, we'd have a very full house," says Arilla. She requested prayer that the landlord would sell the church the property they are currently renting. "We have felt a strong leading that the Lord is going to allow us to have this prime piece of property on the main street in downtown Agnibilekrou," Wode concluded.

Sunday school attendance for the year averaged 70 and a fifth Sunday school class was just started—this one for junior-age students. Miss Wode noted three of the classes are taught by Africans and two by missionaries.

Missionary Alice Smith, who also labors in Agnibilekrou, says the first choral presentation was attempted by the church on Christmas Eve. Arilla directed the presentation, 'Oh Come Emmanuel.'

The youth of the church hosted the Free Will Baptist youth camp at Agnibilekrou on December 26-28, 1988. A total of 72 campers attended. Questions on music, dress, movies, television, and evangelism were all addressed. Dr. Kenneth Eagleton spoke regarding use of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol.

## Mini Reports from Around the Globe

*India*—A family retreat was held in North India October 12-16. "It was such a blessing and challenge to everyone who attended," writes Carlisle Hanna. "The Holy Spirit just ministered to each one according to his own need."

*Brazil*—The seminary and Bible institute at Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, just fin-

ished its seventeenth year with 30 students. Classes were scheduled to start again on February 27.

*Panama*—According to a recent report from Stan and Brenda Bunch, their daughter Alicia was in a cast for five weeks after she broke her leg. She is reported to be fine now.

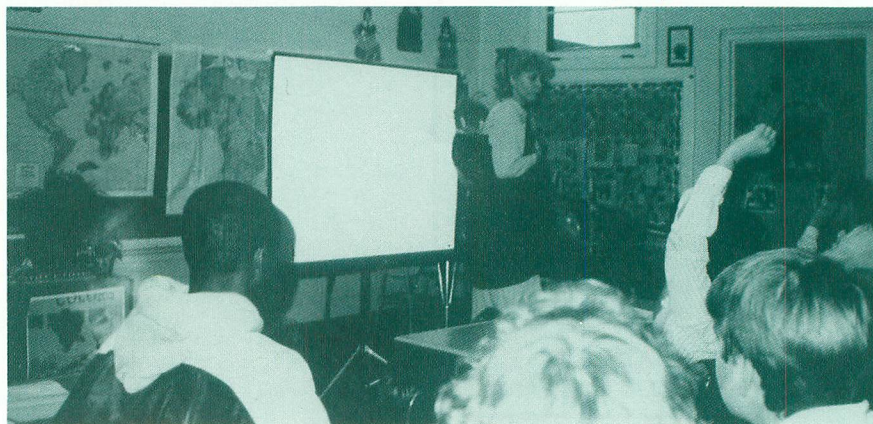
*Nashville, Tenn.*—Student missionary Joan Warner, who spent last summer in Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), has been given the opportunity to share her experiences with students in public schools in Nashville. She went to Glengarry School and spoke to a sixth-grade class on November 15.

*Jacksonville, N.C.*—Mr. John Rhodes, father of missionary Priscilla Inscow, succumbed on January 26 in Onslow Memorial Hospital, Jacksonville, N.C. Mr. Rhodes had been suffering from cancer since 1986. Funeral services were held on January 29 at First FWB Church in Jacksonville. Burial was in Cedar Grove Cemetery, New Bern, N.C.

*Spain*—Lonnie and Anita Sparks, who celebrated 32 years of missionary service on December 22, recently reported the conversion of Augustina, a young mother who was dying with cancer. They had requested prayer for the woman and God answered. "She accepted the Lord several weeks ago," write the Sparks. "She is reading the Bible and Christian books. Please pray that she will be healed, if it be the Lord's will."

*France*—Tom and Patty McCullough reported sad news as they learned

*Student missionary Joan Warner demonstrates for sixth graders how African women carry their babies. The class at Glengarry School in Nashville, Tenn., is taught by Mrs. Cantor.*







Members of Iriso FWB Church in a suburb of Tokyo, Japan, participate in a Christmas Eve celebration at the church. Several visitors also took part.

that Stan, a faithful member of the St. Nazaire congregation and one who helped with the building, was found dead in his apartment on November 8. Authorities ruled it a suicide. This has been very difficult for the church people. One week later Mr. Michon, 75 years old, suffered a mild heart attack. The McCulloughs requested prayer for the congregation.

**San Bernardino, Calif.**—John and Marisol Ellison gave birth to their first child, a daughter, on January 19, 1989, in San Bernardino, Calif. They named the seven-pound five-ounce girl Cinthia Gail. This is the second grandchild of missionaries Walter and Marcia Ellison.

**France**—Miss Charolette Tallent, who had been delayed for lack of funds, finally returned to the field in November. She expressed gratitude to a family who donated their "frequent flier bonus ticket" enabling her to fly from St. Louis to London without taxing her missions account.

**Nashville, Tenn.**—The foreign missions department has urged Christians to join together in prayer chains for April, Foreign Missions Month. Pastors were urged to organize local prayer meetings on behalf of the "World Missions Offering" scheduled for April 30.

**London, Ontario, Canada**—William Reagan, the newest member of the Board of Foreign Missions, underwent double by-pass surgery on Monday, January 16, at Victoria Hospital in London, Ontario, Canada. Latest reports indicated surgery was successful and he was recovering well.

**Marshall, N.C.**—Mr. Austin Faulkner, father of missionary Florine Coscia, died December 17, 1988, in Marshall, N.C. Mr. Faulkner was 81 years of age.

**Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)**—According to missionary Mike Cousineau, his wife Deleen is busy trying to stay in shape by jogging each morning. She nearly stepped on a poisonous snake recently. "She got her second wind that morning," quipped Mike.

**France**—Missionary Cathy Crawford was scheduled to depart from France on February 20 to begin a six-month furlough in the United States.

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Fred Warner, whose ministry involves scheduling missionaries on deputation, recently had his title changed to help clarify his role. His former title was Director of Church Ministries. His new title is Director of Missionary-Church Relations.

**France**—Missionary John Murray is busy discipling three new converts: David, Thierry, and Michelle. "When you hear one say as Michelle did this morning, 'I prayed and God answered my prayer,' your heart jumps with joy," writes John.

**Sophia, W.Va.**—Missionaries Jim and Vicki Sturgill recently announced the engagement of their oldest daughter, Vicki Lynne, to John Cary of Sylacauga, Ala. The wedding is scheduled for May 20 in Nashville.

**Brazil**—"Of the 15 who enrolled for the first year of Bible institute classes, eight finished in December," writes Earnie Deeds from Conselheiro

Lafaiete, Brazil. He urged Christians to pray that God would call preachers, pastors, and Christian workers from among these students. He noted that evangelist Bronco West and his wife had accompanied the Bobby Pooles to Lafaiete and conducted a mid-week service. Ana Cristina, a young lady, became the first convert in the work for 1989.

## Baileys Request Prayer as Opportunities Abound

**Japan**—According to a report from Judy Bailey, the work in Iriso, Japan, has provided many doors of opportunity as their Christmas Eve service was attended by 68 people with approximately 35 of these unsaved. In their Tuesday and Wednesday cooking classes which held special luncheons, 17 women attended. Ten of these were unconverted.

"Each week we are witnessing to approximately 48 to 50 unsaved people through English and cooking classes, women's meetings, and worship services," writes Judy.

Mrs. Nobuku Saito, an older woman who has been attending English and cooking classes at the church, recently prayed for the first time during a women's Bible study meeting. She said, "Mrs. Hersey's health prob-

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## Financial Summary

### Through January 31 \$ubstance

Total income for January	\$ 235,462.95
Total disbursements through January	290,592.15
Projected income through January	273,284.50
Total 1989 Budget	<b>\$3,279,414.00</b>

ADVANCE gifts through January	\$ 11,619.95
1989 ADVANCE Budget	<b>\$ 150,000.00</b>

Total income for December 1988	\$ 338,076.87
Total income for 1988	\$3,226,758.82
Total disbursements for 1988	\$2,988,900.63
Total 1988 Budget	<b>\$3,186,036.00</b>

ADVANCE gifts through December 1988	\$ 168,394.25
1988 ADVANCE Budget	<b>\$ 150,000.00</b>

### \$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Aycock	\$ 389.00	Payne	\$ 404.32
Combs	1,372.05	Poole	2,296.09
Cousineau	1,335.61	Richards	729.36
Crosby	87.49	Smith, J.	4,425.63
Eagleton, Sr.	7,364.29	Sparks	4,983.10
Franks	1,911.53	Turnbough	4,367.47
Hersey	1,979.07	Willey	2,289.92
Lee	1,711.58	Cuba	264.29
McCullough	7,107.57	I.C. Hosp.	1,558.60
Midgett	10,101.83	Spec. Com.	19,187.87
Morgan	2,461.22	General Fund	7,948.30
Nichols	6,482.31		
Total			<b>\$90,759.00</b>



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lems have caused me to think more deeply about my own situation."

In a different Bible study group another woman, Mrs. Mitsui, admitted that she is interested in becoming a Christian. Her husband, Mr. Mitsui, attends by himself and recently told church members he has become a believer.

## Worker's Conference in Brazil Said Worthwhile

**Brazil**—The third Worker's Conference held in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, December 26-30, had 46 full-time participants with many others for the different services, according to missionary Bobby Poole.

"All four of our Brazilian pastors were present," says Bobby. "We had eight from Uruguay that traveled some 36 hours on the bus (one way) and at the close they said it was worth every bit of the hardship to come."

Dr. Robert Woodard of Free Will Baptist Bible College and Bronco West of Dunn, N.C., were the speakers. In the October 1988 issue *Heartbeat* erroneously reported West to be a "children's evangelist." Bronco's evangelistic efforts have been more among adults than children.

## McFalls Finish Language Course, Start Another

**Brazil**—Norman and Laura McFall graduated from the Portuguese language course at Juratel in Campinas, Brazil, on December 16. The couple had been admitted as short-termers due to their previous experience in Brazil.

According to Laura, she and Norman will be entering another school for three months to complete a year of language study.

The couple indicated plans to move to Belo Horizonte in April to help start a new work.

## Over 400 Hear Gospel in Christmas Eve Service

**Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)**—Christians from the Doropo Free Will Baptist Church in Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa, went caroling through the streets of Doropo on Christmas Eve and held an evangelistic meeting in front of the church. Between 400 and 500 people attended the service.

According to Dr. Kenneth Eagleton,



Senior citizens are honored at the second annual Senior Citizens' Banquet held by Betania FWB Church in Panama City, Panama.

the service was interrupted twice: once by a demon-possessed man and the second time by a lady who had an epileptic seizure.

"After the preaching, the young people presented a play," writes Kenneth. "It was very well performed and the highlight of the program. At about 11:00 p.m. the group entered the church and had a Watch Night service."

Eagleton expressed praise that Sie Noufe, a 20-year-old nephew of a village chief, had prayed for salvation at the hospital recently after spending a month under the staff's care and witness.

Eagleton reported 28 people baptized in the month of October: 13 from Doropo, six from Tchantifidouo, and nine from Tehini.

## Gifts Pass 1988 Budget, First Time Since 1981

**Nashville, Tenn.**—General Director R. Eugene Waddell and the foreign missions staff expressed praise for the \$3,226,758.82 in receipts for 1988, passing the budget by some \$40,734.82. This is the first time gifts have exceeded the annual budget since 1981.

Waddell commended the 13 states that surpassed their goals for giving in 1988: Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. The states topping their annual goals did so by an average of 19.4 percent.

Tennessee led the states in giving once again with \$484,943.68, followed

by North Carolina at \$427,905.22 and Oklahoma with \$346,095.19.

The foreign missions staff rejoiced that deficit accounts recovered by \$29,206.92 through December over that reported at the end of November.

## Panama Association Meets with Over 200 on Hand

**Panama**—The annual National Association of Panamanian Free Will Baptist Churches met January 7-9, 1989, in Panama.

According to missionary Steve Lytle, over 200 people gathered in a joint praise service on Sunday, January 8. The main business session was held the next day.

Reports during the session indicated 121 people had made professions of faith during 1988 and 55 people were baptized. Martin Plicet, the outgoing president of the association, was pleased to report a 50 percent increase among Free Will Baptist churches in Panama during the last four years.

Average Sunday school attendance increased from 430 in 1987 to 500 last year.

Alvaro Larrahondo was elected president of the association for 1989.

## Medicine Account Dips at Doropo Hospital

**Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)**—Dr. Kenneth Eagleton has reported an urgent need in the medicine account at the hospital in Doropo, Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa. Latest figures indicate a defi-

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cit of over \$18,000 for purchase of medicine and medical supplies.

Eagleton estimated at least \$15,900 is needed from stateside donors in 1989 for medical supplies. Although patients are charged a nominal fee for medicines received, they are unable to pay the full price.

"Raising our prices for medicines and services would just make the patients' unpaid bills grow," says Kenneth.

From November of 1987 through October of 1988 the hospital staff saw 11,523 patients, admitted 335 of these, and delivered 199 babies.

### Betania Hosts Second Senior Citizens' Banquet

*Panama*—The Betania Free Will Baptist Church in Panama City, Panama, hosted its second Senior Citizens' Banquet on January 20. Thirty-four seniors were present.

Missionary Steve Lytle noted that the parents of a church member had attended the banquet in 1988. This ignited a spark of love in their hearts and they received Christ this past November.

### Combs Report 27 Students Enrolled, Hope for More

*Brazil*—Missionaries Jim and Shirley Combs, who are working with the central Bible college in Jaboticabal, Brazil, noted that 27 students were enrolled during the past semester and prospects look good for the next term. A two-year program will be offered when school opens again.

"Although some of the male stu-

dents are lay preachers and leaders in their churches, we have none who are studying for a full-time ministry," write the Combs. "We now have three organized churches without pastors and will soon have more." This need for leaders has sparked a special concern on the part of the missionaries and the national churches.

### Willey, Wisehart Retreat with Panama FWB Women

*Panama*—"Mom" Mabel Willey, former missionary to Cuba and Panama, and Dr. Mary Ruth Wisehart, executive secretary-treasurer of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention, are



Dr. Mary R. Wisehart



"Mom" Mabel Willey

scheduled to speak to Panama Free Will Baptist women at a retreat March 3-5. The woman's retreat is to be held at Santa Clara Baptist Camp near the coast.

The ladies will deal with unity in service and unity in love as part of the overall theme, "Unity."

Dr. Wisehart and Mrs. Willey were slated to depart from the United States on February 26. Mary plans to return on March 11 while "Mom" intends to remain in Panama for about a month.

### PERSONNEL NEEDED

(1) A qualified Christian man is needed to take care of maintenance at the mission station in Doropo, Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), West Africa. Robert and Pam West will begin furrough early this summer. An experienced maintenance man is being sought to replace Robert by August 1. He should be available for 12 to 18 months.

(2) Jim and Evelyn Teague, who serve as dorm parents at Ivory Coast Academy in Bouake, Cote d'Ivoire, will complete their term of service in the summer of 1990. A qualified couple will be needed to replace them.

Qualified persons interested or individuals knowing someone qualified and interested should contact the Department of Foreign Missions by phone at 615/361-1010 or by writing to P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tenn. 37202.

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of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

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