

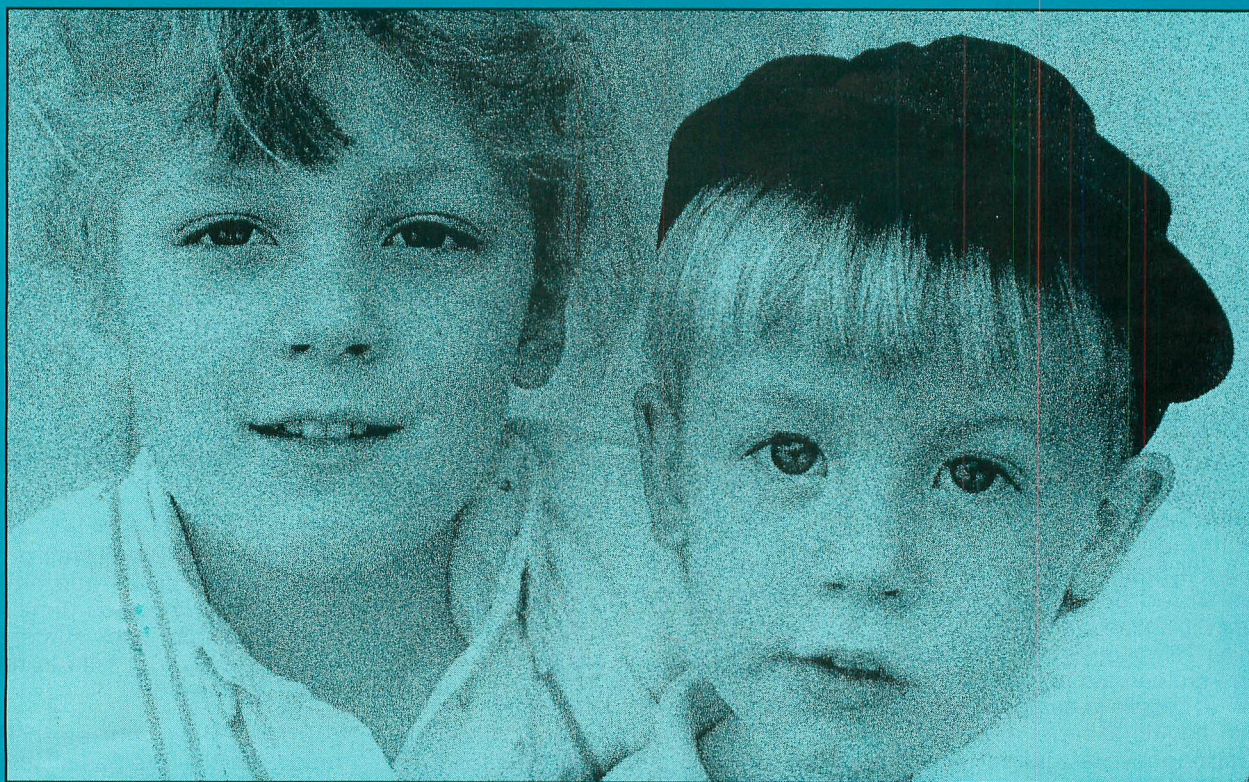
MAY 1990

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world

Vacation Bible School Time



VBS + Kids + Missions = A Winning Formula

—Missionary Storytime —Fund-raising Projects for Missions

—Imaginary Journeys Abroad

—Prayer Time for Missions

Crawford Reports First Convert in New Work

France—Missionary Cathy Crawford from St. Sebastien, France, recently reported the conversion of a nine-year-old boy, Jeremy, the first to be saved since the new work was launched in St. Sebastien. Jeremy is the son of Evelyn, Cathy's next-door neighbor, who was saved last year.

"Shortly before Christmas I was visiting with Evelyn and she mentioned that Jeremy had been asking about how to be saved," writes Cathy. "The next day Jeremy came to visit me. I shared with him what he needed to do in order to give his life to the Lord. He tried to pray but couldn't. So I prayed that the Lord would bind the forces that were at work. Jeremy tried to pray again and that time he succeeded. When he went home, he told his mother what had happened. After an hour had passed, he said, 'Mommy, I've been a Christian for an hour!' He was rejoicing in his new-found faith."

Turnboughs Report Nun Saved in Bible Study

Spain—According to an April 3 telephone report from Jeff and Susan Turnbough in Villalba, Spain, to Susan's mother, a practicing nun was saved during their Tuesday night Bible study recently.

The Turnboughs indicated that the nun's brother had been saved during their evangelistic campaign and had been having Bible studies with the Turnboughs. He invited his sister and she attended.

Jeff and Susan requested prayer that the new Christian will grow in the Lord.

Alicia Bunch Undergoes Another Bone Surgery

Columbia, Mo.—Alicia Bunch, the seven-year-old daughter of missionaries Stan and Brenda Bunch of Panama, underwent another (her third) bone surgery on March 20 at the University Hospital in Columbia, Mo.

According to Stan, doctors disconnected, rotated, and reconnected Alicia's pelvis during the five-hour surgery. She was expected to be in a body cast for approximately two months. At last report she was doing well.



General Director R. Eugene Waddell and his wife, Genevieve, (left) and Overseas Secretary Jimmy Aldridge and his wife, Janie (right), will visit mission fields in May and June.



Waddells Go to Africa, Aldridges to S. America

Nashville, Tenn.—General Director R. Eugene Waddell and his wife, Genevieve, are set to leave for Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), West Africa, on May 21.

The couple will be visiting the various mission stations, attending the Bible institute graduation, and meeting with the field council. They plan to return home on June 23.

Jimmy Aldridge, overseas secretary, and his wife, Janie, will be ministering in South America as they depart on May 9 and return on June 16. They will meet with missionaries in Uruguay and Brazil to counsel and lay future plans in those areas.

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Uruguay—"We baptized 12 people on December 30, 1989," writes Paul Robinson from Rivera, Uruguay. All candidates were adults and the baptism was followed by the Lord's Supper and feetwashing.

France—Three hurricane-strength windstorms and five other major storms caused millions of dollars worth of damage and killed several people in France recently, according to missionary Allan Crowson. "Other than a seven-hour electricity blackout, we suffered nothing," Allan stated.

Kingsport, Tenn.—Following successful surgery on Donna's foot and leg, the Mark Daniels have moved from Asheville, N.C., to Kingsport, Tenn., where they are residing in the missionary residence of the Fellowship FWB Church. Although

surgery went well toward correcting the damages of a fall in Côte d'Ivoire, Donna still faces several months of therapy to be able to walk normally before they can return to the field.

Stockbridge, Ga.—Robert and Cheri Poole became parents for the first time on March 15 as Jordan McAllister made his debut into the world. The second grandson of missionaries Bobby and Geneva Poole of Brazil weighed in at nine pounds and measured 22 inches in length.

Noble, Okla.—Shirley Combs, missionary to Brazil, fell on some stairs on March 24 and broke her foot. Her husband, Jim, is still recovering from back surgery. They hope to recover in time to return to Brazil on May 16.

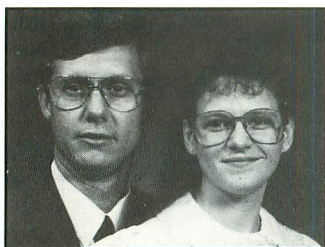
France—Missionaries in France report a mail strike has affected their mail causing it to take up to three weeks to arrive. A big strike was expected on April 24.

Nashville, Tenn.—The Board of Foreign Missions was scheduled to meet April 30-May 3 in Nashville.

France—Timothy Crowson, son of missionaries Allan and LaRue Crowson in Nantes, France, underwent an emergency appendectomy on March 20 in Nantes.

Spain—A camping trip was planned for the youth of the Mostoles, Spain, Free Will Baptist Church on the Friday and Saturday before Easter, according to Ron Callaway. A youth camp is planned for June.

Panama—According to Steve Lytle in Panama, 74 people attended the



Left to right, Jim and Shirley Combs, Steve and Linda Reeves, and Alice Smith are set to return to their fields of service in May.

ladies' retreat March 2-4, including Dr. Mary Wisehart, executive secretary-treasurer of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention office in Nashville, Tenn. A vacation Bible school was held March 12-16 at the Betania FWB Church with 62 attending. Approximately 20 of the children prayed to receive Christ.

72 Attend February Camp in Uruguay

Uruguay—A camp was held in Rivera, Uruguay, February 24-March 1 with 72 full-time campers and 99 people attending on Sunday.

According to missionary Paul Robinson, Martin Gurlekian from Montevideo was the main speaker during the camp. Susan Bumpus, a short-term missionary working with the Uruguayan missionaries, helped in this camp. A man and his 20-year-old daughter made professions of faith during the event.

Miss Bumpus, from Michigan, went to Uruguay on January 11 and returned to the United States on March 24.

McLain Auto and Taxi Collide; Two Injured

Japan—Missionary Jim McLain was involved in an automobile accident on March 12 when a taxi hit his car as he was making a turn at an intersection. Two people in the taxi were injured but Jim was not hurt.

The McLains were unsure of the consequences of the accident since Japanese law holds all drivers responsible, and in injury cases the driver of the other car is often jailed. They requested Christians to pray that this would be settled without incident.

Olena concluded, "Our car is totaled. To date there have been no charges made by the police that we know about."

Reeves, Smith, Combs to Depart for Fields

Nashville, Tenn.—The foreign missions office has announced the scheduled departure of two missionary families and a single missionary during May.

Jim and Shirley Combs tentatively plan to leave the United States on May 16 to return to their ministry in Brazil.

Steve and Linda Reeves are set to leave for Spain on May 21 following their regular furlough.

Miss Alice Smith, who had to come to the States for medical attention and gallbladder surgery, plans to return to Côte d'Ivoire at the end of May.

Property Bought in Melo for Future Church Site

Uruguay—Missionary Paul Robinson recently reported that a down payment was made on February 19 toward a piece of property in Melo, a city 150 miles east of Rivera. The property will be used for a future church building.

The city of about 50,000 people now has a congregation of 15 to 20 people meeting in the home of one of the believers. Two laymen, Ruben Figueroa and Danubio Sousa, started this work. Paul says, "There is a contagious spirit in this small group of new believers."

Trial Date Set for Judy Robirds' Accused Slayer

Nashville, Tenn.—The murder trial has been set for July 16 for the accused slayer of Judy Robirds Smith and her two teenage sons, Chad and Jason. Oscar Frank Smith, Judy's estranged husband, has been charged with the brutal murders of October 1, 1989.

Judy was the daughter of Don

and Carol Robirds, former missionaries to Brazil. Don currently serves as director of communications for foreign missions.

Judy's three-year-old twin sons, Christopher and Casey, are currently in the custody of Mike and Karen Robirds, Don and Carol's youngest son and daughter-in-law.

"With the hearings we have gone through, those we are yet to face, and the jury selection and trial coming up soon, we continue to need the prayers of Christians everywhere," said Don.

"We praise God for His sustaining grace and for the love and concern of the hundreds of Christian friends who have assured us of their prayers. And the financial response by so many has met needs we had no idea we would experience. I cannot adequately express my gratitude to those who responded," Robirds concluded.

The trial date corresponds to the first day of the National Association in Phoenix, Ariz.

Presidential Change Has Money in a Squeeze

Brazil—According to missionary Dave Franks, field chairman for the Brazil field council, all bank accounts were frozen and placed in a federal bank following the inauguration of the new president on March 15. Individuals could only draw out approximately \$600 and the dollar exchange dropped from over 70 cruzeiros to the dollar to approximately 30 cruzeiros.

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Financial Summary

Through March 31

Substance

Total income for March	\$ 275,828.20
Total income through March	845,579.18
Total disbursements through March	825,602.97
Projected income through March	849,288.00
Total 1990 Budget	\$3,517,152.00

ADVANCE gifts through March	\$ 14,153.30
1990 ADVANCE Budget	\$ 150,000.00

Shortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Bailey	\$ 722.33	Teague	\$ 3,444.66
Combs	4,596.47	Turnbough	1,633.79
Cousineau	259.66	Cuba	2,597.60
Leatherbury	185.99	Spec. Com.	19,187.87
Martens	186.00		
Total			\$32,814.37

→ *Continued from inside*

Dave indicated the money is supposed to be held for 18 months and then released in installments.

On March 23 Vicki Sturgill wrote from Campinas, Brazil: "The little bit of money we had in the bank is not available to even pay our light and water bills which are now overdue. Being unable to draw anything out or to cash any dollars, we have just had to do without. The Lord blessed us in that we got a huge Christmas package this week from Sophia (West Virginia) with sweets and canned meats which is helping me stretch our food supply."

Due to the drop in the money exchange, the Pauliceia congregation in Campinas had to be closed because rent went from \$20 to \$250 at one jump.

At press time reports from Brazil indicated the money exchange had opened but rates had gone only to 45 cruzeiros to the dollar and limited amounts of money were available.

Franks indicated 80 percent of the population was in favor of the drastic move by the president to curtail the 1,000 percent annual inflation.

Missions Office Secretary Retires After 18 Years

Nashville, Tenn.—Mrs. Willie Midgett, secretary to the director of missionary-church relations (Fred Warner), retired at the end of February after faithfully serving in the foreign missions office for the past 18 years.

Midgett, a native Nashvillian,



Mrs. Willie Midgett, long-time secretary to the director of missionary-church relations, retired at the end of February.

joined the office staff early in 1972. She was popular with missionaries and visitors alike. Many people called just to hear her "beautiful Southern drawl."

"We are grateful for Willie's faithful service to the Lord and Free Will Baptists over these years. We miss her in the office," said R. Eugene Waddell, general director.

Several Missionaries to Arrive in U.S. Soon

Nashville, Tenn.—Several missionary families are scheduled to arrive in the United States for furlough during May and June:

Miss Debbie Griffin and Don and Ruth McDonald are set to return to the United States from Japan on May 8 to begin their first regular furlough.

Miss Patsy Vanhook will return from St. Nazaire, France, sometime near the end of May to begin her stateside ministry.

Mike and Deleen Cousineau will begin furlough from Côte d'Ivoire on June 14 and will arrive in the States on June 16.

Jeff and Susan Turnbough plan to leave Villalba, Spain, in early June to start their regular furlough schedule.

Dan and Nina Huddleston will conclude their year of service as maintenance personnel at Doropo, Côte d'Ivoire, in June. They are set to arrive in the U.S. on June 23.

Bishops Receive Money Tree from Auxiliary

Nashville, Tenn.—The woman's auxiliary of the Heads FWB Church just outside of Nashville, Tenn., honored Dale and Sandra Bishop on April 1 by presenting them with a money tree containing \$300 for their account.

Dale spoke to the church during the morning and evening services. Kenji, a young man from Japan who was saved recently, gave his testimony. Sandra also shared her testimony with the group.

According to Pastor Wayne Wagner, \$931.50 was received during the day for the Bishops' account. Dale and Sandra hope to be ready to return to Japan in August.

Dial
MISSIONS HOTLINE
Call
615/361-5005

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