

JULY-AUGUST 1992

# HEARTBEAT


of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work around the world



## On the Go for God!





**Devastated by  
tragedy  
as a youth,  
she ran!**

**Now she's . . .**

# On the Go for God!

*by Mary Holland*

**J**ust a runaway! Sleeping in the back of an automobile. I thought I had the solution to my despair. But God sent a preacher—now a missionary—to rescue me from certain disaster. That night my life turned around.

I had not been raised in a Christian home but I had gone to church on the church bus because my mom and dad made me go with my five brothers. We really didn't understand why we went.

When I was 11 years old, my mom became seriously ill. At that time I didn't understand the reality of death. My dad, my little brother and I knelt and prayed at Dad's bedside. That was the first time I had ever seen my daddy do anything like that. He literally begged God to let my mother live. But in spite of our many prayers, Mom died. It was devastating to all of us! For the first time, I sensed the need of God.

I had heard in Sunday school that God loves us and wants the best for us. But this crisis arose, and even though my dad called upon God, my mother didn't get

well. I couldn't understand why.

We received very little help from our church, just pats on our heads and "Sorry that your mother died." But no one expressed real sympathy like that needed by an 11-year-old girl and a seven-year-old boy.

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***I poured out my heart  
as I begged God to let  
my daddy live.***

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My dad had experienced a massive heart attack when I was only five, and he was not able to work. Suddenly, with the loss of Mom, I became the mother of the house and had to care for my little brother.

Just four years later my father became ill and went to the hospital. Like a flash I remembered praying with my daddy and my brother when Mother was sick. I was scared as I went to the hospital chapel. I can remember the serious moment as I walked into that beautiful little chapel with stained glass windows.

I poured out my heart as I begged God to let my daddy

live. I promised Him I would do anything. I said I would come to that chapel and pray every morning if he would make my dad well. And I did.

Dad had been in the hospital for a whole month when I entered his room on October 31 shortly after midnight. I watched him take his last breath and saw the nurses remove the oxygen mask. I didn't know what to do.

I ran out of the hospital into a heavy rain, got on my bicycle and took off. I yelled as loud as I could, "God, I hate You. You're not a God of love. You don't care about me. You don't care about my needs. I don't want anything to do with You any more. I don't want anything to do with church or anyone involved with church."

I wanted to die. I pedaled to a public park, sat on a little bridge, and wept all night. I asked God to just let me die.

After Dad's funeral, my brothers and I were all separated. Some moved to a different state, and I moved to a different town to live with my half brother and his wife.

For the first nine months after





**(Left) Curt and Mary Holland stand with missionaries Stan and Brenda Bunch at the Hollands' wedding. The Holland family (right) is commissioned and ready to depart for Brazil.**

my dad's death I went through major depression. I would cry for hours in the dark. I didn't know what to do, and I didn't have anybody to talk to. Things weren't working out where I was living. And a friend of mine, Denise, was having it difficult too. Her mom and dad were having marital problems. So we decided we would just run away. We waited until it was dark and headed out of town. It was rainy that night so we sought shelter in a little hatchback car in a driveway. We decided to sleep there and head out in the morning.

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***I yelled as loud as I could, "God, I hate You. You're not a God of love. You don't care about me."***

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We got nestled in and were just about asleep when the dogs started barking. God was about to intervene.

A guy came out of his house and walked over to the car. We were caught and didn't know what to do. The man took us

into the house!

Looking at the things on the wall and things sitting around, I said to Denise, "We are in a preacher's house." This was the last place I wanted to be, and I knew she felt the same.

The man, Stan Bunch, sat us down and talked to us, but mostly to me. And I will never forget what he said: "Do you know there is someone who wants to be a Father to you tonight?" I was blown away by that. I thought to myself, "How does this guy know my feelings and my anxieties revolve around losing my daddy?"

The minister pointed out that Jesus gave His life as a sacrifice so I could have a relationship with Him and so I could have a home in heaven.

I was ready for a Father who wouldn't die in a few years. I was ready for a Father to take care of me, and I was ready to use the term "father" again. That night I accepted Christ as my personal Savior. Then I realized that Christ becomes what we need. In my situation I needed a Father!

When Dad died, I had made a

promise never to live with a preacher. But after I was saved, I moved in with Stan and Brenda Bunch.

One day shortly after my conversion, I noticed a boy from my school. I hadn't really wanted to be around him. But as a new Christian, I was zealous to win others to Christ. So, when I saw Curt, I felt I needed to witness to him. He had just returned from summer church camp. When he saw me, he remembered me as an unsaved person. So he said to himself, "This girl desperately needs the Lord."

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***I am thankful that God has taken the things that have happened to me and has turned them to further the gospel.***

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As we walked toward each other across a softball field, we intended to witness to one another. We ended up giving our testimony of what the Lord had done in our lives that summer. So, our witnessing led to dating.

Shortly after we started dating, a youth service was sponsored by Verdella Free Will Baptist Church, where Stan was pastor. I was in charge of the service with some other teenagers. A young preacher, a freshman in high school, had come to preach our youth service. Curt was affiliated with another church where his parents went, but he would go to church with me once in a while. He came that night.

To my surprise, the young preacher spoke only five

*Continued on page 6 →*



# Street Children Serenade!

by Shirley Combs

**I**t had been a long day. We had just gotten in from a church service and Jim had turned on a soccer game between Brazil and the U.S.A.

"Listen. It's coming from the street," I called.

"Come quickly. It's the children. They've come to serenade!" Fifteen children making a "joyful noise" in the street. Ex-street children. No signs of bruises, burns, skin ulcers, runny eyes, rotten teeth, lice-infected hair or bloated stomachs. Just beautiful, healthy children. Our children!

The words came through the iron gate half yelled, half sung. "Ele é exaltado. Ele é o Senhor!" (He is exalted. He is the Lord!) Praise from the lips of the children. No more cursing or calling on demons and occultic saints.

They were all smiles and shiny eyes as they reached out clean hands for the candy we handed them. No begging with sad eyes, dirty skin and dirty clothes. And no professional lies!

As they kissed us goodbye, a lump formed in my throat. "Dear God, what if we had never begun the ministry with abandoned and battered children? What if they had never seen Your love through us? Oh, what a loss if I had never felt these little arms wrapped around me in gratitude—in sheer, simple happiness!"

We had enjoyed a fruitful

multi-ministry in our Araras church, but the idea of another outreach was forming. We thought of offering a free Christian day-care in a needy area. We sought the advice of the city's office of social services and were directed to Dona Olga. We were told that Araras had so many day-cares that some weren't even full yet. Then Olga asked, "Isn't there anything else you could offer to do for the city?"

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**Adults were being hired to murder these children who were considered pests to society.**

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Jim and I had just talked about the serious problem of abandoned children living in the streets. Adults were being hired to murder these children who were considered pests to society.

"In the future we plan to work with street children and then with the elderly," I responded, surprising even myself.

Dona Olga became more interested. "Our city has no orphanage or place for abandoned children," she explained. "Do you think your church could handle this for our city? We can help with a cook, food, rent and medical assistance."

My heart throbbed with

excitement. "Dona Olga, if the church took up your suggestion, we could not accept the help of the city with strings attached. We must have the freedom to teach them about Jesus Christ. If the gospel doesn't germinate in their lives, all the psychologists and social services in town will not transform street children to enable them to integrate into society as happy, contributing citizens."

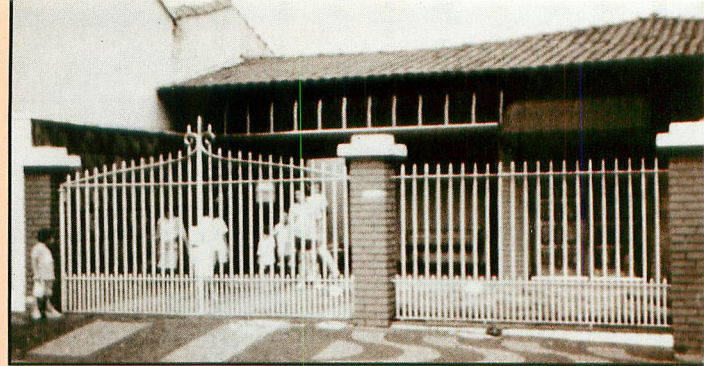
"Oh, I certainly agree that God is important in a person's life," Olga responded. "All religions lead to God and are good," she eagerly added.

"We don't teach religion," I countered. "We'll introduce the children to a person—Jesus Christ—who said that only He leads man to God. They must have an internal force to say no to drugs and street crime."

Olga began asking questions about our church program and personnel. "Please take the idea to the church and get back with me," she concluded.

The church formed a committee which drew up a list of what they would consider positive responses from God. These would confirm His direction to begin such a ministry:

1. The need for such a ministry in Araras must be verified.
2. Financial basis would come outside the present church budget (city government, community, pledges).



*LAR NOVA VIDA is a house of refuge for the children.*



3. Full-time workers would accept it as a ministry.

4. Volunteers would emerge for all areas of the program.

5. A place would be found to house the children.

While we were waiting for God to confirm this new ministry (about ten months), the police were delivering battered street children to our house. By the time all the items on the list had been confirmed, except a house, we had four children living with us. With a green light on four items and nine people in our home, we started looking for a house.

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***While we were waiting for God to confirm this new ministry, the police were delivering battered street children to our house.***

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When folks found out we wanted to put street children in their rental houses, the facilities were no longer available. We prayed that God would help us find a property owner who would consider this a valuable project.

Soon, a friend and I found a man loading his furniture into a truck outside a house. We stopped and explained our situation and asked if his house were for rent. The tall, serious-faced man looked down at us and asked, "Do you mean you want me to rent my house to fill up with street children?"

"Yes, sir, we do."

"Well . . . I think that is a good idea," said the man. "I'll lower the rent if that will help. By the way, could you use some furniture?"

That was a beautiful way to

receive an answer to prayer.

The community had sponsored a benefit dinner and had money ready for beds and mattresses. Within 24 hours, the house was furnished with donated items and we moved in on August 10, 1991.

But since red tape delayed the registration of the NEW LIFE HOME (Lar Nova Vida) for children, the city could not legally give us rent money or a cook. For the first two months' rent, 50 church friends pledged \$4.00 a month to cover the costs.

Next, the Christian widow who had asked to work as a governess of the home was declared physically unable to work. Seven volunteers had been waiting three weeks for her to arrive. I had been staying in the home 24 hours a day for those weeks.

One night after all the children were asleep I stretched out exhausted across the bed and broke down in tears, "Dear God, this is not how I understood it. You confirmed. We began. The children are here. What is it You intend to do?"

He placed His holy arms around me as I had my cry. I picked up my Portuguese Bible and from His Word He showed me, "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city . . . ."

In two days, I was taken completely out of the picture and out of the country for three weeks due to family illness. During that time, the legal registration was granted and the city sent a cook and rent money. Two more children, ages one and two, were sent.

Volunteers signed up to spend nights and work days.

Currently, LAR NOVA VIDA is in a larger house with 15 children sent to us by the juvenile judge. A young couple from the church and their three children also live there along with four adult workers. That makes 24 people in a three-bedroom home.

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***Currently, LAR NOVA VIDA is in a larger house with 15 children sent to us by the juvenile judge.***

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Let me tell you about some of our children.

Kleverton, nine years old, was beaten almost unconscious several times by his step-father. At six he was raped by a stranger.

Maria, nine years old, escaped from an alcoholic mother who ran after her with a knife.

Elaine, 12, was sniffing glue and begging in the streets for her alcoholic mother and little brother.

Jose Carlos, six, brother to Elaine, arrived suffering from

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## HEARTBEAT

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## Special Gifts

These individuals gave special gifts in April in memory or in honor of friends or loved ones:

Donor	In Honor of
Gary and Donna Wall Bon Aqua, Tenn.	Jimmie Carrington
Donor	In Memory of
Nell Armstrong St. Charles, Mo.	Sam Wilkinson
Steven Feldman Huntsville, Ala.	Laura Belle Barnard
	Ray Schoonover
Alice Woolsey Greeneville, Tenn.	Paul and Nelle Woolsey
Pearl Morgan Greeneville, Tenn.	Paul and Nelle Woolsey
Rev. and Mrs. R. Eugene Waddell Nashville, Tenn.	Flossie Robirds Norman Tallent Laura Belle Barnard Valrie Price
Paul and Darla Allen Tulsa, Okla.	Norman Tallent
Mrs. Wilkie Poole Clarksville, Tenn.	Ray Schoonover
Pam Shank St. Louis, Mo.	Norman Tallent
FWB Field Council Spain	Paul Sparks

### The following gave special gifts in memory of Laura Belle Barnard:

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Hill Greenville, N.C.	Sherwood Forest FWB Wom. Aux. El Sobrante, Calif.
Van and Gloria Mitchell Grifton, N.C.	Michael and Josephine Gillin Winterville, N.C.
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Lorenza and Dally Stox Greenville, N.C.	Parkers Chapel FWB Greenville, N.C.
Irvin and Lucy Hyman Albany, Ga.	Charolette Tallent Antioch, Tenn.

### The following gave special gifts in memory of Valrie Price:

Gary and Sandra Curry Ada, Okla.	Elmer and Viola Gray Montvale, Va.
Carl and Lois Blankenship New Castle, Va.	Paul and Barbara Green Statesboro, Ga.
Gussie Horne Savannah, Ga.	Elsie N. Bird Statesboro, Ga.
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Jerry and Carol Pinkerton Antioch, Tenn.	Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Lowrey Portal, Ga.

Clip and Mail Coupon

## Special Gifts

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Please send memorial/honorary card to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

→Continued from page 5  
malnutrition and neglect.

João Paulo, almost three, was taken from his mother after she had tried to commit suicide by jumping in front of a car with him in her arms. Since then she has died from an overdose of pills.

Milton, almost two, could not walk when we received him at one year and eight months. He was full of skin sores. His mother did not want him.

Alessandro, five, was abandoned by his mother and had been shifted from place to place.

Alex, seven, and Reginaldo, 14, were abandoned by their mother.

Marcia, ten, was sleeping under a bridge to escape an alcoholic mother.

Thiago, eleven, Paulo, eight, Camila, six, and Caroline, two, came to us so that their alcoholic mother could be admitted into the hospital.

Ivani, seven, and Ana Paula, six, were in the streets, full of sores, with no food or shelter. They had been living with their mother in a house of prostitution.

Even with Lar Nova Vida, children continue to be exterminated. Statistics indicate 4,611 children were assassinated last year in Brazil. Ten thousand died of abuse. Another 100 thousand were abused and beaten but survived. All over Brazil thousands live in the streets.

Statistics like these hurt. But not as much as they used to because now our little church is doing something about it through LAR NOVA VIDA.

Shirley Combs serves with her husband, Jim, in Araras, Brazil.

## On the Go for God!

→Continued from page 3  
minutes and quit. I didn't know what to do. Then I was impressed to share my testimony. It took me probably 20 or 30 minutes. That night Curt answered the call to preach.

We finished high school and then went to Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College together. After our first year at Hillsdale, we were married.

In 1985, while we were students at Hillsdale, we had the opportunity to go to Brazil and work with the Jim Sturgill family. Through that experience, God showed both of us the need to get the gospel to the rest of the world.

I am thankful that God has taken the things that have happened to me—the ugliness, the heartaches, the pain, and just the daily living without parents and grandparents for my children—and has turned them to further the gospel (see Philippians 1:12).

I am also grateful that Stan Bunch sat down with me when I was 16 and shared Christ. I'm sure he never dreamed I would be a missionary some day. While he and his wife, Brenda, serve in Panama, Curt and I will be laboring in Brazil. I believe people just like me are to be found all over the world. They really want a relationship with God, and they are very sincere. But they are sincerely lost.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

Mary Holland and her husband, Curt, are new missionaries. They are scheduled to depart for Brazil in August.



**Advance Celebration Summary**



**Final Report**



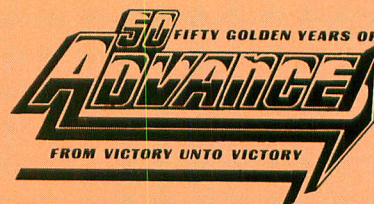
***To God Be the Glory!***

***"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power . . . ."***

***—Revelation 4:11a***



# Thank You!



## Praising God

**W**ith thanksgiving to God for His blessings on the first 50 years of foreign missions ministries, Free Will Baptists celebrated their jubilee by giving \$817,214 through the Advance Celebration. These gifts, including \$35,000 transferred from the WNAC Eunice Edwards Loan Fund, went toward special development and witness overseas.

Today, as we close the pages on the Advance Celebration, that money is being translated into spiritual blessings for thousands of people.

The anniversary reminded us to praise God by our loving, sacrificial gifts. By so doing, we became a vital part of ministries overseas and demonstrated our commitment to fulfilling the Lord's command to His church.



*Projectors and films proved effective in reaching villagers of Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast).*

We set out to meet four areas of opportunity in advancing the gospel:

### ① Providing Tools

We provided **evangelistic tools** such as films, projectors, copiers, video equipment, a computer and printer, literature, etc. These made up part of 10 projects in five different countries.

### ② Training Nationals

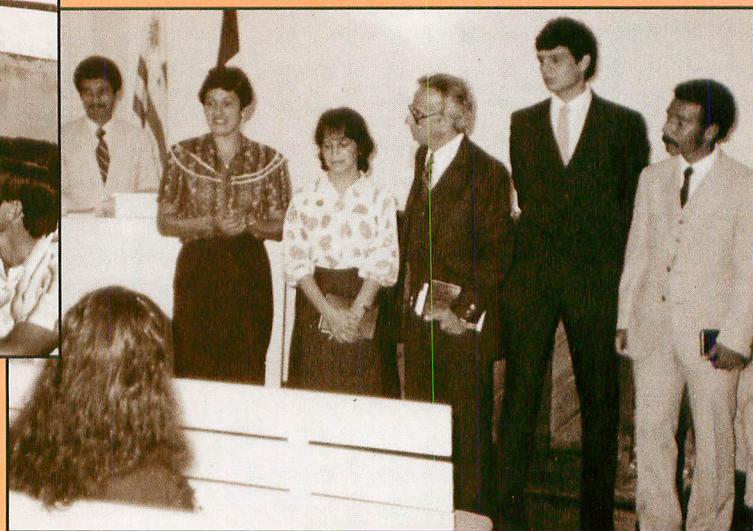
We determined to assist our missionaries in **training national leaders**. We did this by providing Bible institute buildings in Côte d'Ivoire and Uruguay, and by providing start-up money for the Brazil institute. In addition, libraries were strengthened in the training programs in Uruguay, Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Panama, Spain and Cuba.

We supplied the **funds** to



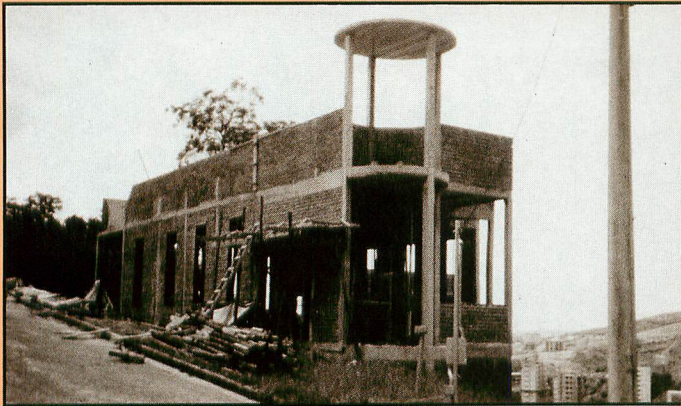
*Cubans receive training (above) at the newly reopened Cedars of Lebanon Bible Institute at Pinar del Rio, Cuba.*

*The first graduating class (below) of the Sower Bible Institute in Montevideo, Uruguay, has been fruitful.*



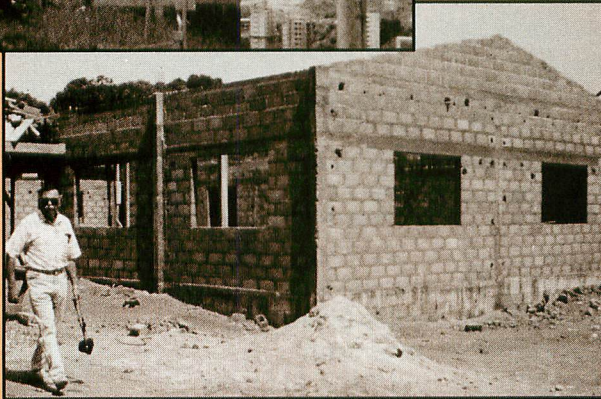


### ③ Building Churches



*The new church building at Belo Horizonte, Brazil, is already in use even while being completed.*

*A new youth center/training facility in Côte d'Ivoire promises to open more doors to the youth and to make leadership training available.*



either assist or **to build 10 church buildings and one youth center/training facility** in Panama, France, Japan, India, Spain, Brazil and Côte d'Ivoire. We have assisted Cuba in construction of the Willey Memorial Chapel.

In addition to Master's Men labors, we have put \$328,034 to work in these countries. Most

of the money was channeled through revolving church loans and will keep on building Free Will Baptist churches until the Lord returns.

Finally, over the life of the Advance Celebration we have **helped 29 new missionaries get to the field** and stay there through their first terms. Their missionary accounts received a

*Master's Men builders traveled to Côte d'Ivoire and did their part to make the Bondoukou youth center a reality.*

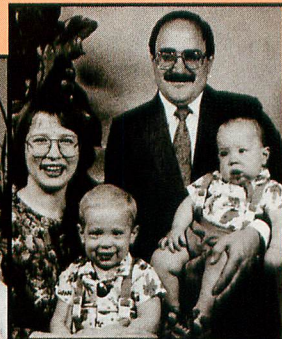


### ④ Sending New Missionaries

total of \$163,444 from Advance. Praise the Lord! People have already been won to Christ by some of these missionaries.

New missionaries receiving help include Dwain and Debbie Crosby, Debbie Griffin, Glennnda Leatherbury, Jalayn Martens, Don and Ruth McDonald, Norman and Laura McFall, Ron and Linda Moore, Steve and Linda Reeves, Jim and Evelyn Teague, Mark and Juli Riggs, Ernest Holland, Dave and Becky Franks, Paul and Tammy Gentuso, Curt and Mary Holland, Susan Bumpus, Nathan and Linda Snow, and Paul and Rhoda Creech.

*Franks Jr. Family*



*Gentuso Family*

*New missionaries are still being helped to the field by Advance funds.*

### VISION Fund

As we bring Advance to a very successful conclusion, two projects are currently underway. We are still continuing our commitments to the Willey Memorial Chapel and the building project of the church in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. All funds earmarked for these two



## Continuing Projects



*The ongoing construction of the Belo Horizonte church will be done through the VISION fund.*



*Cubans are anxious to see the Thomas H. Willey Memorial Chapel at Cedars of Lebanon completed soon.*

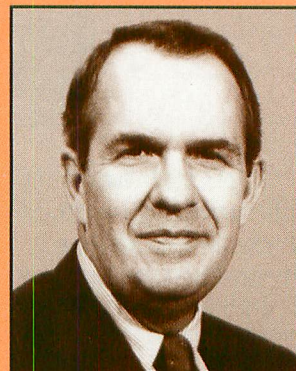
projects will be channeled through our new VISION fund.

Two other projects have accumulated funds: the Second Church in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil and the Panama Church Loan Fund. All funds for these projects will also be transferred from Advance to VISION, and the projects will continue.

Thanksgiving has been abundant on the part of recipients of these provisions for

ministry. The investments are paying huge dividends already. The churches have been strengthened and some are now involved in helping others. As their loans are paid back, new congregations will continue to benefit.

Praise God! All this is happening because you cared enough to pray and give sacrificially. On behalf of all of us and those you helped around the world, THANK YOU!



*Jimmy Aldridge  
Advance Coordinator*

### Financial Summary

<b>Total gifts .....</b>	<b>\$ 813,365.92</b>
<b>Total cost of campaign .....</b>	<b>&lt; 140,408.10&gt;</b>
<b>Total invested in projects .....</b>	<b>&lt; 631,185.25&gt;</b>
<b>Total transferred to VISION for continuing projects .....</b>	<b>&lt; 41,772.57&gt;</b>
<b>Advance account balance .....</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>



**Free Will Baptist  
Foreign Missions**  
P.O. Box 5002  
Antioch, TN 37011-5002





Curt and Mary Holland hug friends following their commissioning service on June 14 at Verdella FWB Church in Liberal, Mo.

## Hollands Commissioned, Plan August Departure

*Liberal, Mo.*—Missionary appointees Curt and Mary Holland (see cover story) were officially commissioned on June 14 for missionary service in Brazil. The special service was held at Verdella Free Will Baptist Church in Liberal, Mo., where Curt answered the call to preach and later pastored. This was also Mary's home church.

R. Eugene Waddell, general director of foreign missions, was on hand to give the commissioning charge following the message and challenge by Dan Farmer, pastor in Moore, Okla. Don Anderson is pastor of the Verdella church. The Hollands hope to leave for Brazil in August if their visas are approved.

## Dale Bishop Ordained Via Satellite Phone

*Japan*—Dale Bishop, missionary to Nopporo, Japan, was officially ordained to the gospel ministry on Saturday, April 18, via satellite telephone hook-up.

The Little River District Association of Georgia conducted the ordination service during a quarterly meeting at Homerville, Ga.

Reverend Rowan Sirmans, chairman of the Little River Ordaining Council, gave Dale a short admonition to continue serving the Lord in Japan and winning souls to the Lord. Then he prayed the prayer of dedication while the other members of

the ordaining council laid hands on him. In Japan, missionaries Jim McLain and Don McDonald laid hands on Dale with Sandra at his side.

The phone hook-up was transmitted through the church sound systems on both ends so that all could be included in the service.

Bishop has been a member of the Corinth church in the Little River Association since 1975.

## Hanna Says Annual Conference "One of Best"

*India*—"We requested much prayer for our annual conference held here February 20-23," write Carlisle and Marie Hanna from North India. "It was one of the best we have ever had."

They reported the church was full as well as the veranda and the platform, and they still did not have enough room. "We had four extra tents that we have not had before and all were filled," the Hannas concluded.

## Nichols Starts Ministry in New Village Nearby

*Côte d'Ivoire*—Darrel Nichols has begun a Saturday afternoon Bible study in Ayeanou, a village about five miles from Agnibilekrou. According to Darrel, "We meet under a shelter in a family courtyard."

A Christian school teacher lives in the village and walks to church in

Agnibilekrou every Sunday.

Nichols requested prayer for Tewia, a young man who apparently has professed faith in Christ. His grandmother is a witchdoctor, and she has been counting on him to help her in her witchcraft. She has put a tremendous amount of pressure on him to return to the traditional worship of spirits.

## Hokkaido Association Holds April Meeting

*Japan*—The Hokkaido Association of Free Will Baptist churches met at the Higashi Tsukisamu church April 11-12 with approximately 60 people on hand. All of the Hokkaido Free Will Baptist churches were involved. According to missionary Jim McLain, "This was one of the best meetings we have had."

The theme for the session was "Revival" and featured Dale Bishop, Don McDonald and Jim McLain as speakers. The general board, the woman's auxiliary and the youth groups met in separate sessions on Saturday night after a Bible message.

## Seven Missionaries Arrive in April, May and June

*Antioch, Tenn.*—Seven missionaries arrived in the United States during April, May and June to begin short or full furloughs from their fields of service.

Jim and Olena McLain came home for a short furlough from Japan on April 20.

Missionary affiliate Kim Zegelian arrived on May 7 from Germany and is scheduled to return on August 20.

Steve and Becky Riggs arrived in the United States from Nantes, France, on May 13. They will be in the United States until next summer.

Norman and Bessie Richards arrived in Nashville, Tenn., on June 11 to begin their year's furlough from Côte d'Ivoire. They had been scheduled to come home in July, but Bessie was suffering from severe gallbladder infection. Latest reports indicated she was taking antibiotics and was expecting to undergo surgery.

Juanita Thompson was expected to arrive from Japan on June 30 after completing her year of service

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→Continued from page 11

as teacher in the Hokkaido Christian Learning Center in Japan.

These missionaries are scheduled to come home in July and August:

Paul and Rhoda Creech are scheduled to land in the United States on July 11 for a short visit, and they plan to return on August 18.

Ron and Linda Moore are to get back in the States on August 18 to begin their regular furlough from Ivory Coast.

## Board Sets 1993 Budget, Approves New Affiliate

**Antioch, Tenn.**—The Board of Foreign Missions met at the new National Offices building in Antioch, Tenn., April 27-29 for its annual session. A proposed 1993 budget of \$4,379,332 was adopted, and Miss Sarah Malone was approved as an affiliate for one year in China. She will be serving as a teacher in Beijing.

Among other action was the adoption of a new Fellow Helper's Fund, designed to help missionaries who approach the \$8,000 deficit which could cause them to be brought home. A medicare supplemental insurance program was also adopted.

A farewell dinner honored outgoing chairman Bill Jones, who will not be eligible for re-election at this year's National Association. A special gift of appreciation was also presented.

Officers elected for 1992-93 were Norwood Gibson, chairman; Bob Trimble, vice-chairman; and Galen Dunbar, secretary.

## Eagleton Reports Another Fetish Burning Event

**Côte d'Ivoire**—On March 29 an elderly couple from the small village of Nopradoou, about 19 miles from Doropo, asked missionaries at Doropo to come and burn their fetishes. Two of their adult sons had already been saved and burned their fetishes about four months earlier.

Dr. Kenneth Eagleton wrote, "After talking to them to make sure they understood their decision, we proceeded to tear down the idols



*Sherwood Lee is Nurse of the Year in Florence, S.C.*

and burn them. The man had a large number of fetishes. He had even built a small hut to house them and worship them. He testified that he was tired of living as a slave to Satan, who had ruined everything he had."

## Lee Is Nurse of Year at McLeod Medical Center

**Florence, S.C.**—Missionary Sherwood Lee, who has been on leave of absence from Côte d'Ivoire since August of 1990, was recently chosen Nurse of the Year at McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence, S.C.

According to Daphne Bazen, a head nurse at McLeod, "Sherwood Lee is a perfect example . . . is very committed to nursing, committed to patient care . . . realizes that to treat a patient effectively, you have to treat the entire family."

## Two People Saved, One Baptized at Nopporo

**Japan**—Missionary Dale Bishop writes from Nopporo, Japan: "Last month, during one invitation, two people made professions of faith. Also three others raised their hands asking for prayer that they would soon be able to believe and ask Jesus into their hearts."

According to Dale, the two who made decisions were the husband and wife for whom they had been requesting prayer—Mr. and Mrs. Togashi. Mr. Togashi followed the Lord in baptism the next Sunday, but Mrs. Togashi was unable to be baptized due to complications after knee surgery.

## Sarah Malone Approved as Affiliate in China

**Antioch, Tenn.**—Sarah Malone, a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College and resident of East Alton, Ill., has been approved to serve as an affiliate in China. She is scheduled to depart on August 10 and will be teaching English at the Beijing Institute of Technology.

Miss Malone is scheduled to have a two and one-half week training program in California to perfect skills in teaching English as a second language. She will also learn Chinese culture along with some language. Sarah will be serving under the English Language Institute of China which is based in San Dimas, Calif.



*Sarah Malone*

According to Sarah, the government will furnish her housing and a small allowance as well as her return flight to the United States. She will be responsible to raise enough money for the flight to California and her training, health insurance, life insurance, newsletters, and a small monthly allowance. She expects to need approximately \$10,000.

Those interested in helping may send their gifts to Sarah Malone, English Language Institute/China, P.O. Box 265, San Dimas, Calif. 91773.

## Bailey Says Teenager Saved, Diabetes Stable

**Japan**—A teenage girl was saved during the first week of April at the Iriso church in a Tokyo suburb or Japan. Missionary Ken Bailey says, "There are several seekers. Please continue to pray for the church!"

Ken has been diagnosed as having diabetes, but latest reports indicate he is doing well and the diabetes is under control. He takes two insulin shots daily.





Jim and Karen Cowart



Ernest and Elaine Holland



Steve and Linda Reeves



Jim and Olena McLain



Cathy Crawford



Steve and Judy Lytle



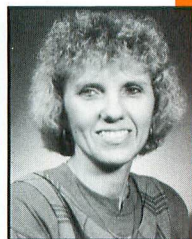
Nathan and Linda Snow



Ron and Linda Callaway



Joe and Tanya Dudley



Charolette Tallent

## Missionaries Departing for their Fields

### Many Missionaries Depart for Fields of Service

**Antioch, Tenn.**—A number of missionaries departed in June for their fields of service while others are scheduled to depart in July, August or September.

Jim and Karen Cowart and their three children departed from Nashville, Tenn., on June 15 on their way to a new ministry in Brazil. They will be working in Campinas.

Ernest and Elaine Holland departed on June 22 to resume their ministry in Côte d'Ivoire.

Steve and Linda Reeves, who came to the United States in February due to health needs, returned to Spain on June 23.

Miss Charolette Tallent left on June 30 to resume her ministry in the Nantes area of France.

Jim and Olena McLain are scheduled to return to Japan on July 13 after a very short furlough.

Steve and Judy Lytle have concluded a year's furlough and plan to return to Panama on July 18.

Others are tentatively scheduled to depart in the summer but some have encountered complications with visas or lack of finances:

Cathy Crawford is scheduled to return to France on July 2 but needs financial help.

Nathan and Linda Snow also need financial support but plan to leave on August 16 for their ministry at the Hokkaido Christian Learning Center in Japan.

Ron and Linda Callaway are still short on funds but have tentatively set August 18 as a departure date.

Joe and Tanya Dudley, short-term missionaries to France, are scheduled to leave for their new ministry

among students on September 15.

Three new missionary couples also hope to leave for their fields in August: Curt and Mary Holland for Brazil, Paul and Tammy Gentuso for Ivory Coast and Dave Jr. and Becky Franks for Uruguay.

Earnie and Jean Deeds were to return to Brazil this summer but will be delayed due to lack of funds.

### McDonalds Demolish Car in Winter Accident

**Japan**—Missionaries Don and Ruth McDonald and their two children were involved in an automobile accident on March 29 as they were en route to their once-a-month responsibilities at Kita Hiroshima Chapel. According to the McDonalds, a blizzard had created poor visibility and extremely icy roads causing their auto to go out of control.

"We crossed over the lane for on-coming traffic, went over a curb, and literally flew over a six-foot embankment into a ditch below," says Don. "With the miraculous help of the

Lord, we slithered right between a telephone pole and a substantial fence post like threading a needle. Our Toyota van was totalled in the process, but all four family members were totally unharmed."

### TEAM-Brazil '92 Leaves for Evangelistic Thrust

**Antioch, Tenn.**—Ten young members of TEAM-Brazil '92 left Nashville, Tenn., on June 24 to begin their three-week evangelistic program in Brazil.

The group spent four days in Nashville in intensive training for their special ministry. Missionaries Ken and Marvis Eagleton accompanied the high school age team of six girls and four boys.

### Candidate School Aids Seven New Missionaries

**Antioch, Tenn.**—Seven new missionaries were given special instruction, orientation and practical training.

*Continued on page 14* →

*Terry Eagleton, son of missionaries Ken and Marvis Eagleton, instructs the TEAM-Brazil '92 in culture and basic language skills.*







Christians from St. Nazaire and Nantes, France, enjoy a special outing on Easter Monday.

→ Continued from page 13

ing during the Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Candidate School held May 26-June 5 at the National Offices building in Antioch, Tenn.

Short-term missionaries Nathan and Linda Snow and Joe and Tanya Dudley also participated in part of the school program. Veteran missionaries and foreign missions staff members conducted the sessions.

## Easter Monday Gathering Held by French Churches

*France*—The Free Will Baptist churches in France have traditionally held a get-together on the Monday following Easter. This year approximately 100 people attended the meeting which was held about 12 miles outside of Nantes.

According to Allan Crowson, a potluck meal was served and a lot of time was spent in singing. Andre Belliot, treasurer of the Nantes church and a student at the Bible institute, gave a devotional thought. Soccer and baseball were also a part of the activities.

Crowson has been voted in as pastor of the Nantes church since Steve and Becky Riggs left for furlough in May.

## Paul Sparks Loses Battle with Leukemia

*Indianapolis, Ind.*—Paul Sparks, son of missionaries Lonnie and Anita Sparks in Spain, died on April 26 in Indianapolis, Ind., after a difficult battle with leukemia. He underwent a bone marrow transplant in November of 1991.

Funeral services were held on April 29 at Peace Free Will Baptist Church in Indianapolis where Dan Runion is pastor. Bill Jones, chairman of the Board of Foreign Missions and long-time friend of the Sparks, preached the funeral message.

Paul was pastor of the Antlers Free Will Baptist Church in Antlers, Okla. He was a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College and held a Master of Theology degree from Grace Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Jill, had made tentative plans to go to the mission field.

Paul leaves his wife, Jill; a daughter, Aimee Dominique; his mother and father; and a brother, Noel.

## Côte d'Ivoire Bible Conference Hosts 300

*Côte d'Ivoire*—The Northern District Easter Bible Conference in Côte d'Ivoire was held at Doropo from Thursday evening through Sunday noon on Easter weekend with approximately 300 people attending.

According to Dr. Kenneth Eagleton, about half of those in atten-

*Paul Sparks and his wife, Jill, appear with their daughter, Aimee, at a National Association gathering.*



dance were from out of town. Since the church building was too small for the meetings, the group was able to use a community building which would seat about 250 people. The rest stood outside the windows and doors.

The entire conference was planned, organized and executed by African Christians, including meals and lodging. Films were shown on two evenings.

Three missionaries—Clint Morgan, Robert Bryan and Robert West—along with two African pastors—Jerome and Kossounou—were speakers during the conference.

Eagleton noted that the Sunday morning service lasted four hours. It included a lot of singing, preaching, and communion and feet washing. Approximately 275 people were on hand for that service.

Missionaries said between 12 and 16 55-gallon barrels of water were used each day for bathing and drinking.

## Gainer Takes Two-Year Leave from Japan Post

*Japan*—Associate missionary Mirial Gainer has returned to the United States after requesting a two-year leave of absence from her work at the Hokusei University in Hokkaido.

According to Mirial, this leave was precipitated by health needs, her mother's and her own. She requested prayer that God would meet her physical needs as well as provide work to meet her financial needs.

## Combs Report Missions Emphasis and Baptisms

*Brazil*—According to missionaries Jim and Shirley Combs in Araras, Brazil, two young adults were baptized in April. They also declared the entire month of April had been dedicated to foreign missions emphasis.

Special programs, music, banners and flags helped to build the excitement for the last Sunday's rally. The Sunday school ended with an international dinner as the cooks dressed in traditional costumes representing the countries and their respective tables of Chinese, Italian, Arabic, Portuguese, North American, and Brazilian foods.



## Accident Claims Life of Nancy Hughes' Father

*Jacksonville, Fla.*—Mr. Joe Crotzer, father of Brazil missionary Nancy Hughes, died in Jacksonville, Fla., on June 8 after suffering extensive head injuries in an automobile accident on May 31. He had been hospitalized since the accident.

Mr. Crotzer was 84 years of age. Burial and funeral services were held on June 11 in Clarksville, Tenn.

## Mini Reports from Around the Globe

*Uruguay*—The seventh year of The Sower Bible Institute in Montevideo, Uruguay, got underway on May 20 with seven full-time students.

*Japan*—Missionary Evelyn Hersey, who has been under continuing treatment following cancer surgery, has been diagnosed as having a severe case of hepatitis.

*Antlers, Okla.*—Noel Sparks, second son of Lonnie and Anita Sparks, has been called to pastor the Antlers Free Will Baptist Church in Antlers, Okla. where his brother, Paul, had been pastor. Noel is planning to be married in late July. He was recently ordained.

*Uruguay*—Dennis and Trena Owen say two children went from their area in Montevideo, Uruguay, to the camp at Aguas Buenas near Rivera. The boy, Steban, was saved during camp. A couple of weeks later his little sister, Lorina, accepted Christ on a Sunday morning.

## International Consultation Set for August in Panama

*Panama*—An international consultation of Free Will Baptists has been set for August 24-27 in Panama. Representatives are expected from Brazil, Japan, Mexico, Cuba, Canada, Uruguay, Spain, Panama and possibly Côte d'Ivoire.

Theme for the meeting is "Free Will Baptists—United in Worship, Fellowship and Witness."

Missionary Steve Lytle is vitally involved in hosting the first-time event. R. Eugene Waddell, general director of foreign missions, and Jimmy Aldridge, overseas secretary, will also be on hand for the special gathering.

## Financial Summary Through April 30

### \$ubstance

Total income for March.....	\$ 300,966.88
Total income for April.....	363,687.47
Total income through April.....	1,340,367.88
Total disbursements through April.....	1,370,195.69
Projected income through April.....	1,258,401.67
Total 1992 Budget.....	<b>\$3,775,205.00</b>
ADVANCE gifts through April.....	\$ 28,786.95

### \$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Barker.....	\$ 375.36	McCullough.....	\$ 3,435.74
Callaway.....	586.51	Midgett.....	6,866.52
Combs.....	7,133.85	Moore.....	2,115.35
Creech.....	11.22	Morgan.....	7,314.00
Crosby.....	2,434.00	Robinson.....	5,796.18
Crowson.....	8,333.51	Sturgill.....	1,632.65
Deeds.....	18,433.15	Willey.....	1,414.57
Ellison.....	2,500.01	Wilson.....	295.64
Gibbs.....	2,465.27	Spec. Comm.....	18,882.34
Martens.....	2,435.95		
Total.....			<b>\$92,461.82</b>

### \$inking

All of the following accounts are in the black but in serious need:

Barnard.....	\$ 279.74	Poole.....	\$ 558.14
Bishop.....	1,772.40	Riggs, S.....	1,851.19
*Franks Sr.....	972.47		
*Medical insurance claims pending			

## State Goals—1992

State	Goal 1992	Goal Through April	Contributions Through April
Alabama.....	\$ 175,000	\$ 58,333	\$ 67,850.22
Arizona.....	5,500	1,833	3,114.99
Arkansas.....	207,000	69,000	78,606.74
California.....	84,000	28,000	30,893.83
Colorado.....	6,200	2,067	2,316.20
Florida.....	84,000	28,000	29,798.51
Georgia.....	164,000	54,667	49,652.90
Hawaii.....	4,500	1,500	594.00
Idaho.....	900	300	330.00
Illinois.....	110,000	36,667	32,254.50
Indiana.....	41,000	13,667	17,400.42
Iowa.....	2,200	733	537.00
Kansas.....	17,000	5,667	5,185.83
Kentucky.....	75,000	25,000	20,785.20
Louisiana.....	250	83	53.00
Maryland.....	20,000	6,667	7,063.93
Michigan.....	136,000	45,333	50,996.48
Mississippi.....	59,000	19,667	15,353.61
Missouri.....	275,000	91,667	108,843.50
Montana.....	1,100	367	491.00
Nebraska.....	1,300	433	268.00
New Mexico.....	900	300	205.25
*Northeast Assn.....	4,500	1,500	1,370.00
**Northwest Assn.....	6,500	2,167	1,750.20
North Carolina.....	492,000	164,000	181,802.89
Ohio.....	114,000	38,000	44,904.48
Oklahoma.....	402,000	134,000	139,401.34
Pennsylvania.....	900	300	200.00
South Carolina.....	224,000	74,667	66,928.55
Tennessee.....	572,000	190,667	165,513.72
Texas.....	130,000	43,333	33,014.42
Virginia.....	132,000	44,000	48,185.58
Virgin Islands.....	2,200	733	555.67
West Virginia.....	81,000	27,000	28,861.74
WNAC.....	00	00	40,607.97
Miscellaneous.....	144,255	48,084	18,753.36
Totals.....	<b>\$3,775,205</b>	<b>\$1,258,402</b>	<b>\$1,292,445.03</b>

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

\*\*Northwest Association  
Alaska, Oregon, and Washington



# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Post Office Box 5002  
Antioch, Tennessee 37011-5002

**Board of Foreign Missions:** Norwood Gibson, chairman; Bob Trimble, vice-chairman; Galen Dunbar, secretary; Bill Jones, Joe Grizzle, Dean Dobbs, Archie Mayhew, Bill Reagan, Alton Loveless.

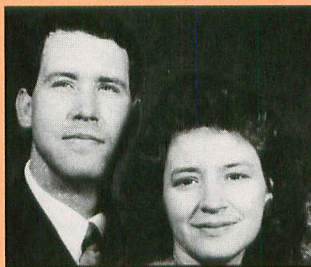
**Administrative Staff:** R. Eugene Waddell, general director; Fred Warner, director of missionary-church relations; Don Robirds, director of communications; Jimmy Aldridge, overseas secretary; Michael Johnston, treasurer.

*Please clip and mail this label with all correspondence.*

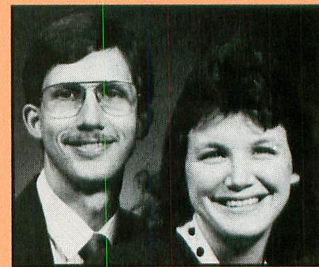
## ***They Have Committed Their Lives***



Dr. Paul and Tammy Gentuso  
*Côte d'Ivoire*



Curt and Mary Holland  
*Brazil*



Dave Jr. and Becky Franks  
*Uruguay*

**By faith they are going to be Christ's witnesses in areas where people have not adequately heard the Good News.**

**They need your commitment to stand with them in prayer and faith-promise giving so they can go and continue in the ministry of God's calling.**

**They will be leaving this summer, but they lack faith commitments, so make your faith promise today.**

### **Faith-Promise Commitment**

**Yes, I want to be a partner in the ministry of**

- ☐ Dr. Paul and Tammy Gentuso
- ☐ Curt and Mary Holland
- ☐ Dave Jr. and Becky Franks

Trusting God to provide, I make this faith-promise commitment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ ( ) monthly, ( ) weekly, ( ) annually.

Enclosed is my current gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

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Church \_\_\_\_\_

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