

MARCH-APRIL 1994

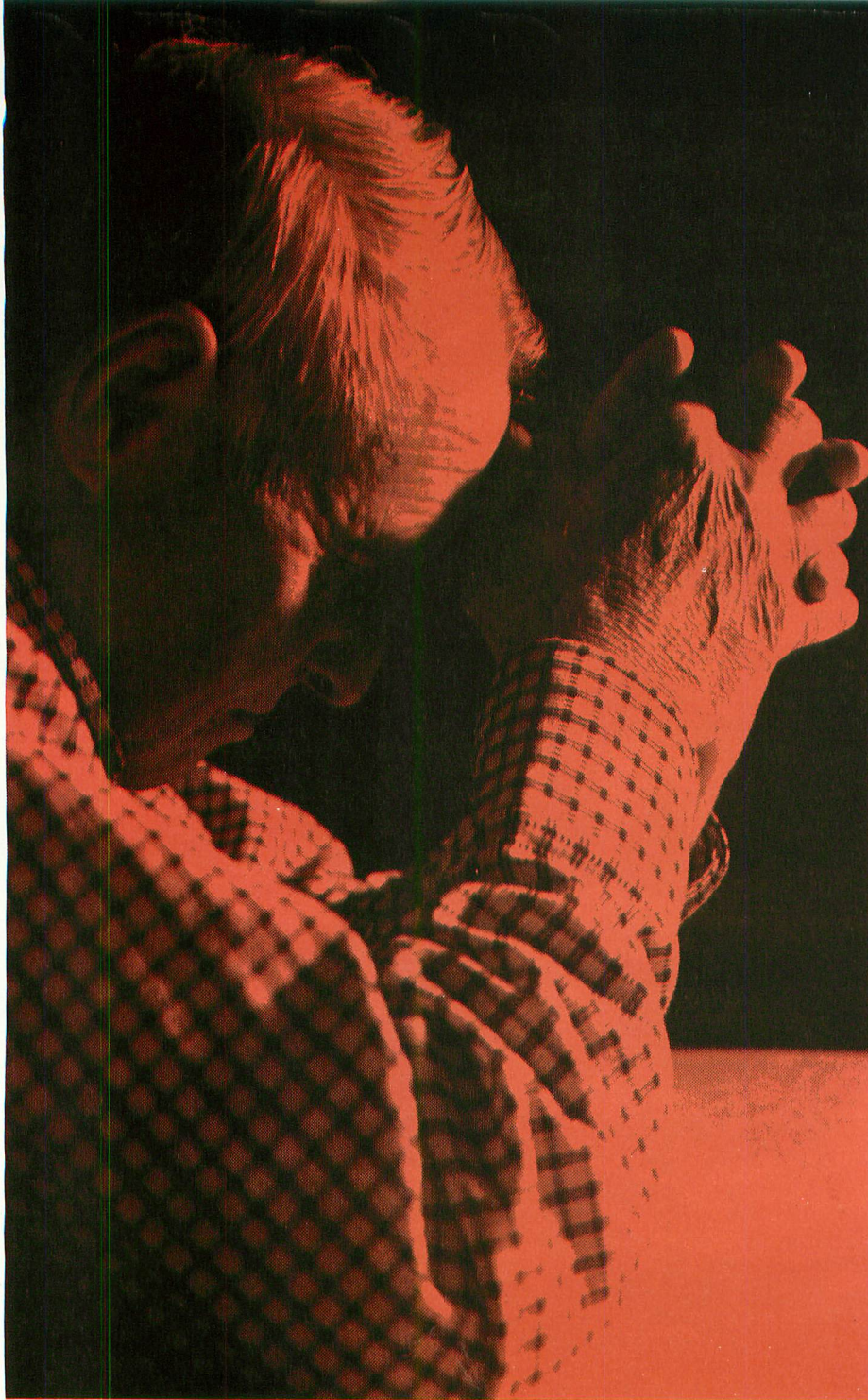
HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work around the world



Facing The Unfinished Task!



The unfinished task! That's our challenge. I'm burdened over the urgency of reaching the last unreached people group in the world. I believe obeying God's command and fulfilling Christ's commission remain the priority of the church in 1994.

As I reflect on 1993, I praise God for His faithfulness. He graciously met the needs of the Department of Foreign Missions. And I'm grateful for the manifestation of His power to save sinners in all cultures of the world.

From October to mid-December, some 30 North India leaders preached in almost 200 new villages and led more than 150 people to Jesus Christ for salvation.

It thrilled my heart to hear of the evangelistic efforts in North India. In October, some 30 North India leaders, specially trained in evangelism, went out in teams to reach the lost. By mid-December they had preached in almost 200 new villages and had led more than 150 people to Jesus Christ for salvation.

And I rejoiced over the fruits of missionary efforts manifest in Panama. Arsenio Gonzales, a

***by R. Eugene Waddell,
general director***

Facing The Unfinished Task!

Free Will Baptist lay preacher, opened a new work about 30 minutes from Panama City in Nueva Esperanza. Over 30 people have been converted there in recent months.

In Brazil, one missionary report listed 23 conversions while two others claimed 10 each. In Ivory Coast we heard of 32 baptisms at Bouna, another eight at Panzarani, 20 at Agnibilekrou, etc. Missionaries in Japan also have experienced some real moving of God's Spirit in reaching men for Christ.

Preliminary analyses of news relayed from the various fields indicate significant growth on most of our fields in 1993.

In light of these reports, the staff and I want to magnify the Lord for His working around the globe. Yet we cannot help feeling slightly perplexed. We see what God is doing, but we wonder if Free Will Baptists have been sidetracked from fulfilling the supreme task. Are we growing more complacent regarding the lostness of mankind? Has conversion of the lost ceased to be our priority?

I was amazed recently when I learned from a report by Ben Sawatsky, missions director of the Evangelical Free Church, that their denomination of 1,275 churches had over 500 career foreign missionaries in 1993. For several years now the EFC has maintained an average of approximately one missionary for every two churches in their denomination. By AD 2000 they plan to have at least 1,000 career missionaries. And annually they send 50 teams overseas for two-week assignments.

Their commitment reminds

me of the Moravians who sent out 2,158 of their members as missionaries from 1732 to 1882. By 1900 they had one missionary overseas for every 58 members at home. Free Will Baptists have approximately one foreign missionary for every 1,900 members.

Reports on consumers indicate Americans are spending more and more on pleasure and material goods. Yet, most missions organizations claim giving to world outreach has dipped drastically low. Costs of ministry abroad continue to rise, and we have cut operational expenditures to their limit. About the only other alternative is to reduce the overseas staff, curtail some ministries and services, close some works, etc. I don't believe God would be pleased with these measures.

Approximately 66 percent of our 2,495 churches did give something to foreign missions last year.

Our financial picture for 1993 shows gifts to foreign missions totaled \$4,035,919. We praise the Lord for every gift and every faithful giver, but this total is down \$103,619 from 1992, and it fell \$343,413 short of the 1993 budget.

We honor WNAC and nine states that passed their 1993 goals: Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Louisiana, Michigan, N.W. Association, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and West Virginia.

Analysis of the gifts by states over the last two years shows

these 11 states have increased their giving: Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Nebraska, N.W. Association, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. We commend them for their faithfulness.

On the other hand, four states have decreased their missions giving during the last two years: Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, and Missouri. We want to encourage them to make a concerted effort to reverse this trend.

We are excited and grateful that 1,714 FWB churches participated in world outreach in some way during the year. Some of these were not even affiliated with the National Association. Discounting the nonaffiliates, this total indicates approximately 66 percent of our 2,495 churches did give something to foreign missions last year.

Efforts to control spending kept the expenditures to \$322,000 below budget, but in spite of these actions, the shortfall in income created a negative cash flow of \$21,412 for the year. Deficit accounts seemed destined to mushroom

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Editor: Don Robirds

Editorial Assistant: Tammy Strickland

Artist: Jim Johnson

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→Continued from page 3
like never before in spite of the cutbacks at home and abroad.

Fund-raising events such as the "Norman Invasion" sponsored by the Arkansas youth and the annual Don and Billie Sexton Walk-a-thon in Tennessee have been a source of great encouragement. The Arkansas youth have gone a long way toward raising their goal of \$100,000 to help with construction projects for the ministries of Norman and Bessie Richards in Côte d'Ivoire and Norman and Laura McFall in Brazil. The Walk-a-thon in Tennessee has produced two-thirds of a million dollars for missions since it was first launched.

Although unfounded allegations this past year took their toll on the staff, missionaries and the missions program in general, we remain determined to take advantage of unprecedented open doors around the world. For example, in the former Soviet Union (Commonwealth of Independent States) schools have invited

teaching of the Bible and biblical principles. They have opened the doors for Christians from the West to do the teaching. And China is allowing Christians to enter that country to teach English. Now, committed believers can show their interest in the Chinese people and demonstrate the Christian walk.

Approximately 11,000 ethnic groups with a combined population of between 800 million and 1.3 billion people still await the gospel. Somehow my heart echos the sentiments of Oswald J. Smith who asked, "Why should anyone hear the gospel twice until everyone has heard it once?"

We sense the urgent needs and opportunities within the 10/40 Window, defined by missiologists as a wide strip of the globe between the tenth and the fortieth parallels north of the equator encompassing North Africa, the Middle East, and South Central Asia (see the map below). The nearly four billion residents within this window include 97 percent of

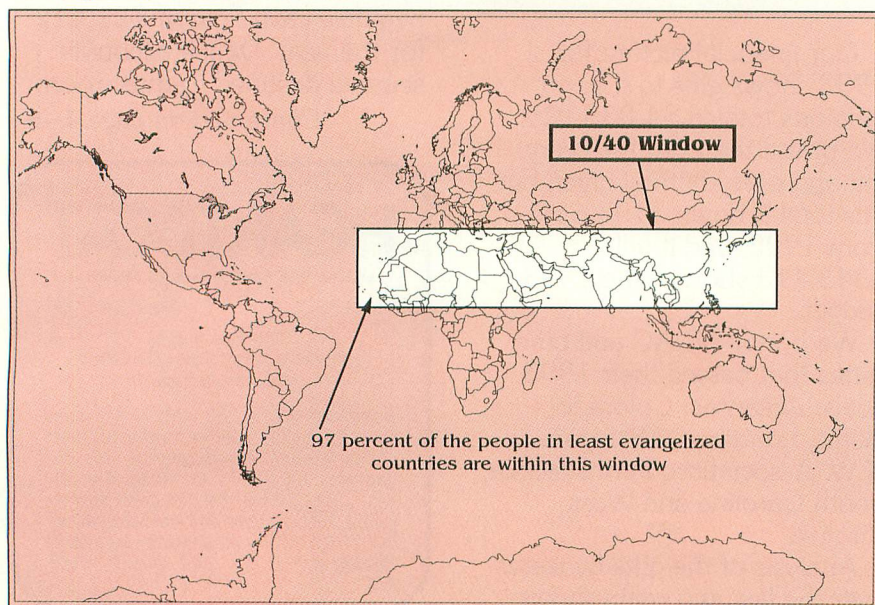
the inhabitants of the world's least evangelized nations. Yet, only eight percent of all missionaries are laboring among these nations. Also, more than eight out of ten of the poorest people on earth live in this area.

We sense the urgent needs and opportunities within the 10/40 Window.

It also is significant that within this 10/40 Window are the headquarters of just about every non-Christian religion on earth. Unfortunately, Christians have neglected most of these areas for decades, perhaps because many of them prohibit missionaries and/or evangelism. In 1994 we will be looking at the central Asian republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States for possible ministries in the near future.

Dr. Grigori Komendant, president of the Union of Evangelical Christian Baptists of the Commonwealth of Independent States, met with our board in December and spoke to the Free Will Baptist Leadership Conference in Nashville. I was especially challenged with his indication that Uzbekistan has only two Baptist churches in the country and these are primarily composed of ethnic Russians. Among 16,000,000 ethnic Uzbeks, only 35 professing Christians have been found.

After meeting with Dr. Komendant, our board has approved our exploration of new opportunities. The board has approved the sending of two young men to Russia as student missionaries, has given



consent to assigning missionary affiliates to some needy area in the CIS, and has encouraged the staff to investigate various other ministry opportunities.

These newly opened doors call for pioneer missionary work once again. Just as Laura Belle Barnard and Pop and Mom Willey went out to open new frontiers in the early days of our missions program, 1994 calls for more of the same. Their spirit of self-sacrifice and compassion for the lost must be evidenced once more. We are seeking and praying for Christians with the commitment and determination to meet this pioneering challenge.

Among 16,000,000 ethnic Uzbeks, only 35 professing Christians have been found.

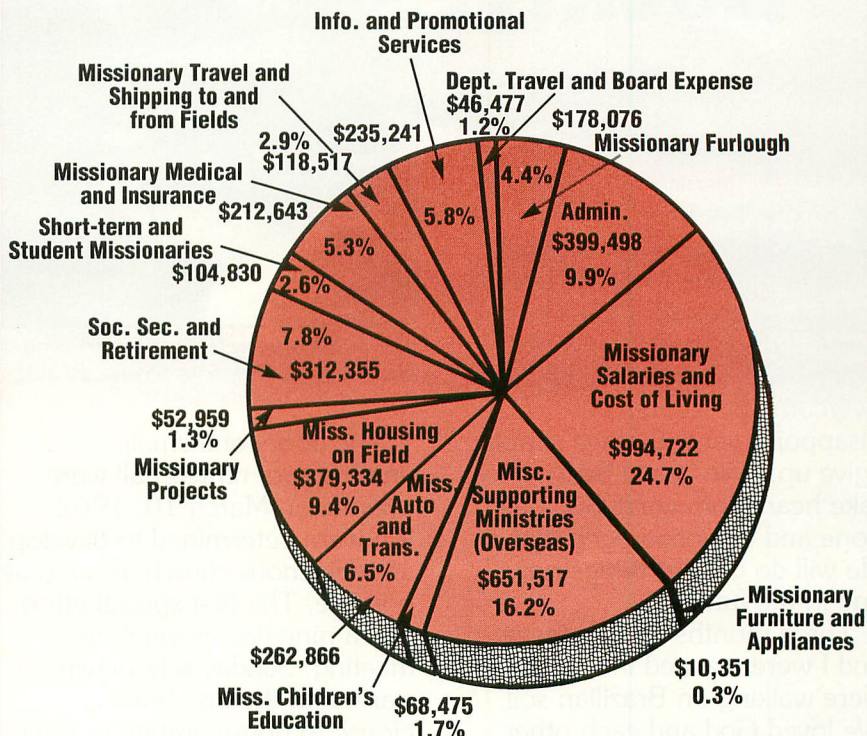
Thank God for willing servants like Sarah Malone who is in her second year of teaching English in China. Paul and Tanya Dean also are scheduled to go to China with the English Language Institute this summer. What a blessing!

The truly happy Christian is not only a holy Christian but a hopeful Christian. I look forward to heaven and the privilege of participating in the great choir described in Revelations 5:9. But until every kindred and tongue and people and nation have been evangelized, God will continue to call and send out pioneer missionaries with the wonderful message of salvation. That is our task as a church, a mission, and a denomination.

Let's do it together in 1994!

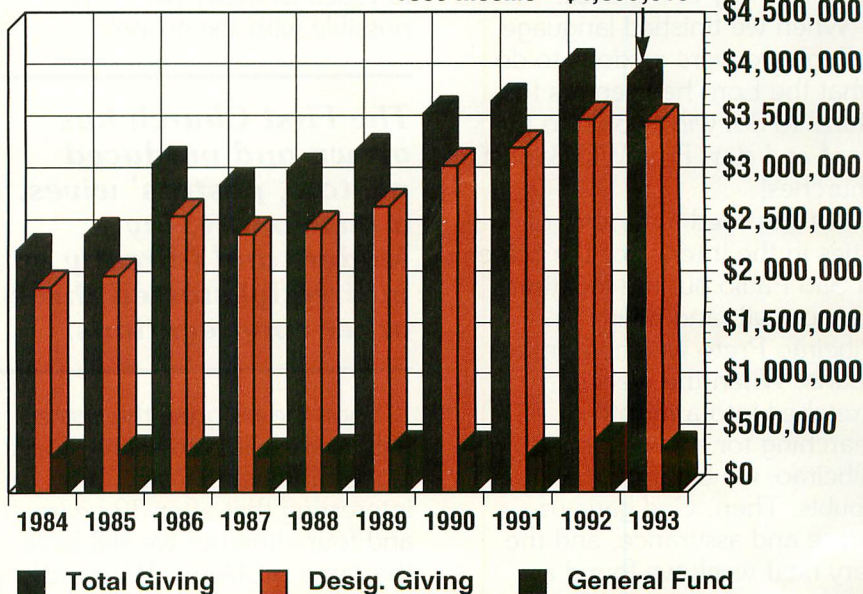
Expenditures for 1993

\$4,057,331



Income for Past 10 Years

1993 Income = \$4,035,919



Looking Back...

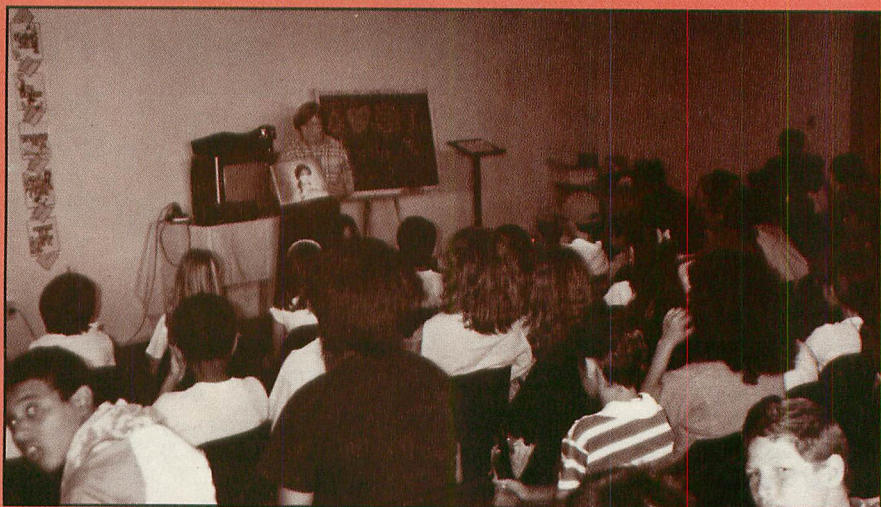
by Bobby Poole

Looking back can be dangerous. It is easy to glory in past accomplishment and fail to take advantage of present opportunities. On the other hand, it is easy to be so overcome by failures and disappointments that we simply "give up." We would be wise to take heart from what God has done and be encouraged that He will do greater things now and in the future.

Three months after Geneva and I were married in 1960 we were walking on Brazilian soil. We loved God and each other, and had committed our lives to share the gospel with the people of Brazil. Each day we were learning to allow God to have His way in our lives.

When we finished language school, we were anxious to do what the Lord had sent us to Brazil to do: win people to the Lord and start Free Will Baptist churches!

We surveyed a number of cities in the interior of the State of São Paulo but the location, size, growth and needs of Ribeirão Preto weighed on our hearts. When the weeks stretched into a month of searching for a house in Ribeirão, we began to have doubts. Then, God gave us peace and assurance, and the very next week we found a house.



Geneva Poole tells a story to a vacation Bible school class at one of the churches in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil.

The doors of a small, unattractive, rented hall were opened on March 10, 1962. We were determined to develop an indigenous church as soon as possible. The first special effort was a nine-day evangelistic meeting. Sunday school was started on the first Sunday. House to house visitation, tract distribution, Bible studies, preaching points, DVBS and camp ministries were all used during our first term of service to reach as many people as possible with the gospel.

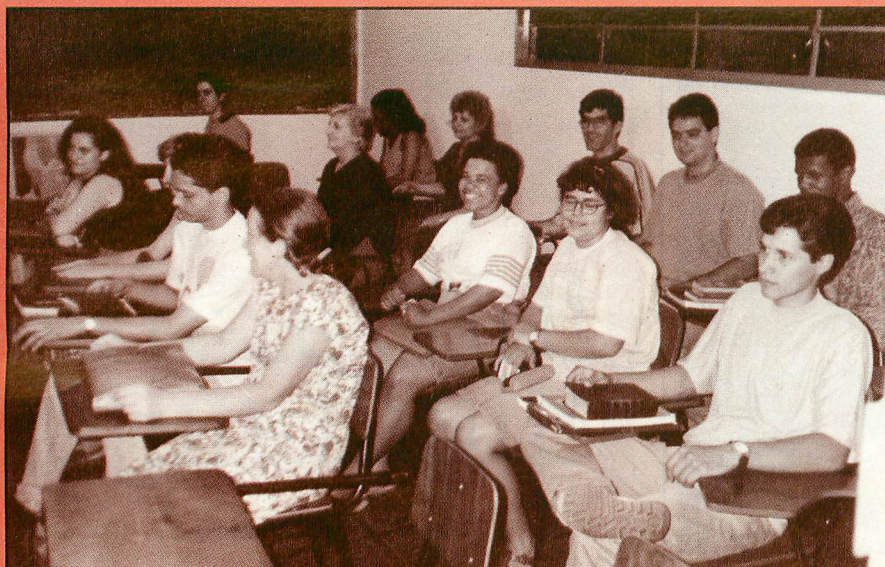
The First Church has grown and produced pastors, pastors' wives, a missionary, lay leaders and (directly or indirectly) started three other congregations.

Soon we outgrew the rented hall, and we had to search for a bigger and better place. It is interesting that after 32 years and four churches we still have the same problems. We need more space!

From such a humble beginning, the First Church has grown and produced pastors, pastors' wives, a missionary, lay leaders and (directly or indirectly) started three other congregations. For some eight years now it has had a full time national pastor.

As the First Church grew, four young people developed a desire to prepare for ministry. They sat in our living room and talked about preparation for the Lord's work. God used that incident to begin the Seminary-Bible Institute. I knew we might lose them to another group if they went away to study. In light of that, we asked them if we were to start a Free Will Baptist school in the church, would they stay and study with us? Based on their response, we began the institute ministry in 1973 which continues today.

As I look back, the starting of the college and institute program was probably the most important decision made during our entire missionary career, although it is doubtful any other Bible institute and college was ever started on such short



Students of the Seminary-Bible Institute in Ribeirão Preto get set for a class session.

notice and with so little preparation. In 1992 the institute merged with the Central Bible College which was started in 1988 by the Free Will Baptist Association in Brazil.

One of those first students was used by God to start the Ipiranga congregation, our first mission church out of the First Church. Although it is legally under the First Church, it is self-governing. Today it has approximately 60 in attendance and has a self-supported Brazilian pastor.

Since the First Church had a full-time Brazilian pastor and capable lay leadership, we felt it was time for us to move on. I was director of the Seminary-Bible Institute; consequently, we had to stay in the area to be able to carry on this ministry.

For years we had talked about the need for a church in an aristocratic area of Ribeirão. We thought starting a church in this area would be a big step of faith. It also would be very expensive! But no one else had ever tried it. We know God is not willing that any should perish and this includes the

wealthy, the educated and the high society people as well as any one else.

Today, the Second Free Will Baptist Church is organized and running about 50 for both Sunday school and evening services. Due to our growth, we face the same old problem we encountered in the First Church: the need for larger, more adequate facilities. We are praying and working for a permanent location.

Today, the Second Free Will Baptist Church is organized and running about 50.

This year, the Second Church has adopted the CITY BLOCK PLAN. Each member of the church has chosen a city block. Each one is to pray for that block and distribute special tracts, most of them written, designed and produced by Geneva.

In addition to ministering to its own congregation, the Second Church has been

instrumental in starting a work in Marincek, a low-cost housing subdivision. A young mother and her two daughters from that area were attending the Second Church. Due to the distance it was difficult for them to be faithful, so we searched the area for an evangelical church. None was found. We saw this as a real need!

Having received a small inheritance, Geneva and I decided to use what was left and what we had in savings to begin the new work. The Lord supplied the workers through the Second Church! Carlos and Valeria had joined the Second Church about a year and a half before. They were ready to work. Carlos was a graduate of our Seminary-Bible Institute.

Marincek is now well into its second year. The attendance is in the high forties and a number have been saved.

Several other preaching points have been carried on down through the years. Some of these did not produce a church, but the gospel was given to thousands.

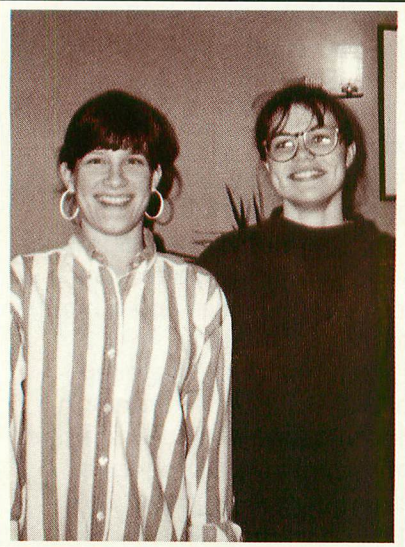
As I look back, I wonder, "Has our work in Ribeirão Preto been a success?" How does one measure success? Dr. W. B. Riley once said, "Success is knowing the will of God and doing it!" I feel good about what has been accomplished, but I know greater things could have been done if we had possessed more faith. Our Lord will determine if we have been those "good and faithful servants" or not. But this I can say: "We have tried to do His will!"

Bobby Poole and his wife, Geneva, are senior missionaries serving in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil. Bobby is from Tennessee and Geneva is from South Carolina.



A University Challenge

by Tänya Dudley



As university students are won to the Lord and disciplined, all kinds of doors are opened.

Among the 30,000 students attending the University of Nantes, maybe 25 are French Christians. Unbelievable!

Seeing the need for outreach to these students, Free Will Baptists started a university ministry four years ago in Nantes, France. With Charolette Tallent at the helm, things began to happen. In the past few years, Charolette has basically worked alone in this ministry; however, this last year we were able to join her and share the load.

We became students at the University of Nantes but immediately realized that it is nothing like universities at home. Students take heavy class loads, leaving little or no time for other activities. We were surprised to find no student centers, student unions, or even sports competitions. Basically, we found very little student life at all!

The university is spread throughout the city so that dorm buildings are not even close to the academic buildings. We expected a campus but there was none. So, we had to rethink some of our "before arrival" plans.

Realizing the French culture is very private, we knew we must build relationships.

We attended classes but found they offered very little time or opportunities to get to know French students. As a team, we decided to focus on the students coming to the Tuesday night Bible study. Hopefully, more students would come as their friends invited them or as they saw our posters which were hung in all of the university buildings. Seven non-Christian



Students meet in Charolette Tallent's apartment (top), Tänya stands with Valérie LeComte in the Dudleys' apartment (middle) and (bottom) Joe and Tänya lean on English students Jo Stone and Joanne Commerford.

French students were already attending the studies along with about 15 other Christian students, both foreign and French, who also had needs. We wanted to be there for these students.

Realizing the French culture is very private, we knew we must build relationships before anyone would trust us or our beliefs. We started by inviting the students into our home. Many times Charolette would have two or three students over with us for dinner, and we would just get to know them. We did not always do things together though. We may have met someone at a cafe or the university cafeteria, while Charolette went to a student's room for a visit. We tried to do individual things with the students at different times.

Many times a student would drop by our apartment just to talk, or just to get away, or just to eat something besides cafeteria food! Our home was open for them at any time.

We also did things together as a group. We found that the students enjoyed being together on outings. They seemed to relax more. So, we planned projects each month. We all went to a professional soccer game and a rugby game, as well. Other activities included barbeques, pizza parties, bowling, ice skating, birthdays, game nights, and of course a Christmas party.

During exams we made care packages and took them to the students who were up late studying. A person would have thought it was Christmas! The French students seemed very surprised because what we did was just not French. But, we

could tell they appreciated our kindness, and one girl in particular really started opening up to us afterwards. One never knows what may break the ice.

Our weekend retreat was one of the biggest events. We went to the country from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon for a time of learning, growing, and fellowship. Charolette invited the leader of Campus Crusade for Christ from Paris to be our special speaker. Not all of the students were able to go, but we still had a good group and a good time. Many things were said which helped the students. It was also a good opportunity for sharing our ideas and answering questions—another chance to build trust and grow closer.

Creating friendships must take place before students will really listen or be open to any new ideas.

Among our group we did have a faithful circle of Christian students. We met with them twice a month for Bible study and prayer. We called it Koinonia, which means "fellowship." We also met once a month strictly for prayer. Joe met with the guys, and Charolette and I met with the girls. We specifically prayed for those students who were not Christians. We also shared our burdens and our joys with one another—a time for spiritual growth.

It is so exciting to look back and see the closeness that developed in the students. Of course, anything that is done

right will take time, and this is true in dealing with university students. Creating friendships must take place before students will really listen or be open to any new ideas. They do want to know about God, Christianity, and the Bible, but they understand so little. We must be there for them—to answer their questions, to help them grow, and especially to win them to Christ.

A great opportunity is open among students everywhere, and we cannot let it pass. It is a difficult age group because they must ask "why" about everything. But it is also a crucial group that must be reached! They are the leaders of tomorrow in their country.

As university students are won to the Lord and disciplined, all kinds of doors are opened for our churches. Trained young people are needed in our churches. They need national pastors, youth leaders, and Sunday school teachers. These Christian French students and those who will become Christians could be the start of an exciting new movement for evangelism in France.

An endless amount of potential for the future is well within our grasp. We cannot afford to let these university students slip through our fingers. Someone once said if a person is not reached for the Lord by the time he is 25, he may never be reached at all! We may be some students' last chance. We must not act too late!

Tanya Dudley and her husband, Joe, were short-term missionaries to France from September of 1992 to June of 1993. Joe is currently employed by the Rock Prairie Separate Baptist Church in Tipton, Ind., as associate minister of missions and young adults.

News Update



Missionary Bobby Poole (right) shows Lois and Bill Reagan some of the materials which have been produced for Christian workers in Brazil.

Martens, Leatherbury to Extend Language Study

France—Jalayn Martens and Glendna Leatherbury, who have been studying French at the University of Nantes, have decided to extend their studies until the first of June. "Our field council in the Ivory Coast has given us their okay," write Martens and Leatherbury. "We are thankful for the extra time to study."

Jalayn and Glendna finished their first semester of study at the end of January.

Brazil Conference Highlights Spirituality

Brazil—The sixth annual Brazil Free Will Baptist Workers' Conference was held December 27-30, 1993, at the camp property in Jaboticabal, Brazil.

Speaking around the theme of "True Spirituality" were Larry Powell, pastor of Cofer's Chapel in Nashville, Tenn.; R. Eugene Waddell, general director of foreign missions; and Bill Reagan, member of the Board of Foreign Missions from Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

Brazilian speakers included Pastor Carlos Jaime, Pastor John Poole, and Dalila Conde, wife of Pastor Paulo Conde of Campinas.

Missionary Bobby Poole stated, "The Lord used the conference to speak to hearts. One young man from the Ipiranga church in Ribeirão Preto asked if he could go to the conference and pay later because he was broke but felt the Lord

wanted him to go. After the conference he testified to Larry Powell, 'It is amazing that God would show His love and concern for me by sending someone all the way from the United States just to speak to me!'"

Fifty-five adults and seven children were on hand for the conference. Eleven of the 55 people were from Uruguay.

Spontaneous Church Visited by Eagleton

Côte d'Ivoire—On November 21 Dr. Kenneth Eagleton accompanied some national leaders to one of the mission churches which had spontaneously sprung up about 80 miles from Doropo in the village of Kafolo, Côte d'Ivoire. The group was started by a Christian family who moved there. They have no pastor or leader with any training in the Bible.

"We encountered a group of 40

adults and 30 children attending service there," writes Kenneth. "They were thrilled to have someone come and encourage them. Their biggest need is a pastor."

The doctor noted that the group made two urgent requests: They want someone to teach them about baptism and to hold a baptismal service, and they want someone to teach them about Christian marriage and the family.

Ferguson Has Surgery for Herniated Disc

Ashland, Ky.—Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson returned from Ivory Coast, West Africa, on December 18, 1993, to seek medical treatment for Ledgel.

Ledgel entered the hospital in Ashland, Ky., in mid-January with severe pain. When muscle relaxants did not help, a neurosurgeon was called. After a CAT scan, they discovered herniated discs from the fifth to the eighth disc. Surgery was performed on February 5.

According to reports, the surgeon inserted a plate with some screws to hold the back in place. Ledgel returned home from the hospital on Monday, February 7, and doctors indicated he would need approximately six months to fully recuperate.

Blackwell Church Holds Special Day for Reeves

Blackwell, Okla.—Sunday, January 2, was a "We Love You" Day for missionaries Steve and Linda Reeves at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Blackwell, Okla.

A \$2,000 check is displayed by Pastor Wayne Bookout (left) and his wife, Wanda, of the First FWB Church in Blackwell, Okla. Linda, Hannah and Steve Reeves (right) lend them a hand. The check was for the Reeves' airfare to return to Spain.



According to Pastor Wayne Bookout, a six-foot by three-foot check in the amount of \$2,000 was presented to the Reeves for their airfare back to Spain.

When the pastor first introduced the Reeves to the congregation he said, "We love you, and we appreciate you! You are celebrities in this church." He declared them to be "heroes of the faith."

The Blackwell church adopted Steve and Linda several years ago and continues to support them with prayer, finances and love.

Christmas Concert Draws Almost 60 During Snow

Japan—On the evening of December 18, 1993, Miss Keiko Ikeyama performed a Christmas concert at the Ai No Sato Free Will Baptist Church in Sapporo, Japan. This was part of the efforts toward evangelistic outreach by the church during the Christmas season.

The concert was split between classical works of Chopin and Christian hymns of the faith. Miss Keiko also interwove her personal faith and testimony between each selection and shared how she had trusted Christ as a young person while on a trip to America.

Over 60 people attended the concert in spite of a snow storm that hit just hours before the event.

A fellowship time was held following the concert. Several unsaved people attended, including one of the students from Don McDonald's adult English class. Ruth McDonald and Debbie Griffin assisted in the program. Debbie sang a solo, accompanied by Ruth on the piano.

A Christmas pageant at Ai No Sato also drew about 80 people.

Hanna Receives Visits from Daughter and Lee

India—Carlisle and Marie Hanna in India expressed praise for the visit of Sherwood Lee, former missionary to Côte d'Ivoire, during the month of November. Sherwood helped many people with physical and spiritual needs.

Brenda Kay Roach, the Hannas' daughter, also visited her parents during most of December.

Carlisle was delighted with early results of the trained evangelistic



Miss Keiko Ikeyama plays the piano (left) and sings (right) during a special concert on December 18 at the Ai No Sato FWB Church in Sapporo, Japan.

teams which began their ministry at the first of October. By the middle of December they had reached almost 200 new villages with the message of Christ and more than 150 people were saved. Several of these have already been baptized.

African Church Leader Killed in Cycle Mishap

Côte d'Ivoire—Mr. Bini Kouame Daniel, president of the National Association of Free Will Baptists in Côte d'Ivoire, was killed instantly in a freak motorcycle accident on November 16.

Bini and his wife were en route to the home of a lady of the Bondoukou church when the cycle hit a woman pedestrian. The lady was killed instantly, and Bini Kouame apparently broke his neck when he hit the pavement. His wife was only injured slightly.

According to reports by missionaries, many people have heard the message of Christ as a result of Bini's death. Services or visits took place each night from December 17 to January 6 and many people heard the gospel.

Approximately 300 people were on hand for the three-hour service the night before Bini's body was removed from the morgue. The following night, 1,000 people were present for preaching, singing and praying. Jerry Pinkerton preached on January 8, the day of the funeral, and also at the gravesite.

On the same night as the funeral, government officials ordered every church in Bondoukou to be present for a service praying for peace. Between 3,000 and 4,000 people were present in the town square until 2:00 a.m. Jerry preached to them. He said that peace cannot be

found in politics or in finances. It can only be found in Jesus Christ.

Bini Kouame wore many hats in the church and association. He was a member of the Bible institute board, a member of the pastoral committee in the Bondoukou church, a Sunday school teacher, and an advisor to the youth group. The public school official left a wife and four children as well as an extended family of from 10 to 15 people who lived with them. Bini also helped to support a number of students.

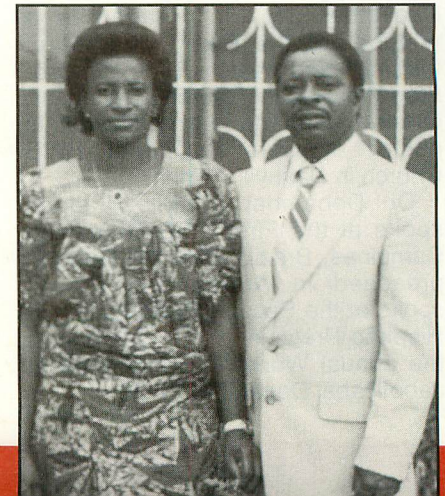
River Overflows, Floods Church in Germany

Germany—The river which runs through Kusel, Germany, overflowed on the night of December 20 causing all streets in the city to be closed. The Free Will Baptist Church facility was under about a foot and a half of water.

According to the Dennis Heaths, they worked most of the night trying to save what they could, but major

Continued on page 12 →

Church leaders Monsieur and Madame Bini Kouame Daniel of Bondoukou, Côte d'Ivoire, were in a motorcycle accident on November 16. Bini Kouame was killed.



News Update



Larry Powell (left) talks with two young men who attended the Workers' Conference at Jaboticabal, Brazil. General Director R. Eugene Waddell (above) shows a scripture verse to some children in Rivera, Uruguay.

→ Continued from page 11

repairs will be needed. They praised the Lord that the flood was no worse, but they requested prayer for guidance as they seek to clean up and restore the facilities.

Dennis noted that the people of the church were all very quick to help them get the cleanup done. Some who were not a part of the church even helped.

The Heaths stated that the children from the church had presented a Christmas play at the Old Folks Home on December 15 and on four floors of the hospital on December 17.

Waddell, Reagans and Powell Visit S. America

Antioch, Tenn.—General Director R. Eugene Waddell was accompanied to South America by William and Lois Reagan and Larry Powell on December 25. Mr. Reagan is a member of the Board of Foreign Missions and pastor of the Windsor Free Will Baptist Church in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Larry Powell is pastor of Cofer's Chapel FWB Church in Nashville, Tenn.

On December 26 Mr. Waddell spoke at the First FWB Church in Campinas, Brazil, while Bill Reagan preached in Araras and Powell spoke at the Second FWB Church in Ribeirão Preto. All three took part in the annual Workers' Conference at Jaboticabal December 27-30.

Each of the men also spoke to the missionaries at the annual Brazil field council meeting which was held in Barbacena January 3-7.

Larry Powell returned to the United States on January 8 while the Reagans and Mr. Waddell continued to minister and visit the churches in Brazil until January 13 when they went to Montevideo, Uruguay.

Mr. Waddell and Bill and Lois met with the missionaries and pastors on January 14 in Rivera and participated in an ordination service on Saturday, January 15. Casildo Trindade, a long-time faithful lay-preacher, was ordained to the ministry. The threesome visited the other works and met with the field council on January 20 in Montevideo. They left for the U.S. on January 21 and arrived the next day.

"Brother Reagan and I preached in most of the FWB works in Brazil and Uruguay," says Mr. Waddell. "Brother Powell preached in some of the other places."

Concerning the missionary activities in Brazil, Waddell expressed a sense of satisfaction that the missionaries and nationals are entering a new era of greater partnership.

"We talked to the Uruguayan leaders and heard their plans and dreams," said the general director. "They expressed great appreciation for the Americans who came and shared the gospel. I encouraged the missionaries to continue the development of the extension training they have started."

Jonathan Bunch Has First Surgery of Series

Columbia, Mo.—On January 19, Jonathan Bunch, son of missionaries Stan and Brenda Bunch of Panama, underwent the first of a series of surgical procedures to reconstruct his left ear. The surgery involved taking cartilage from Jonathan's rib cage and attaching it to his skull next to the ear. That procedure was considered successful.

The next surgical procedure was scheduled for March 11.

Iriso Church Holds Special Children's Meeting

Japan—The Iriso Free Will Baptist Church in Japan held a special children's meeting on December 23, 1993 (a national holiday honoring the Japanese emperor's birthday).

"We had 42 children and moms attending and had a special speaker from Child Evangelism," writes Ken Bailey. "Almost all of those attending were unsaved, and many were in church for the first time."

Another special service was held by the church on Christmas day with about 45 people in attendance. At least 12 of these were unsaved.

The Baileys urged Christians to pray for them and the work at Iriso as they will be returning to the United States in mid-June to begin furlough. They have been on the field for six years due to lack of workers to take their place. The church still needs a Japanese pastor.

McCulloughs Active in Church While Home

Royal Oak, Mich.—"Tom and Patty may be home on furlough but they're not on vacation," wrote a friend of the Tom McCulloughs recently from the Central Free Will Baptist Church in Royal Oak, Mich.

"Although Patty has met with very difficult health circumstances, she is doing well and is very busy in the Lord's work. She has a very bubbly and positive attitude and is always 'in there' working with a singing group, our teens or something," the letter continued.

"Last week it was Tom's turn to go and visit Jim, a friend of ours, in the hospital. He was an unbeliever and

was seriously ill with lung cancer. Tom wasn't physically well that day but as always, he willingly went to see the man. Tom led Jim to the Lord that afternoon," the friend declared.

The next day Tom received a call with the news that Jim had died that morning.

Kita Hiroshima Hosts Over 50 for Christmas

Japan—Over 50 people gathered at the Kita Hiroshima Chapel in Sapporo, Japan, on the afternoon of December 18, 1993. According to missionary Don McDonald, Mrs. Machiko Hara adapted the story of "The Three Trees" for the Christmas play. She included a clear presentation of the gospel in the story.

The Sunday school children presented the play in front of their siblings and mothers. Approximately 10 unchurched mothers attended the afternoon gathering which included cake and juice after the program. One grandfather attended.

McDonald brought a brief devotion about the need for a Savior.

Three Missionary Couples Home; Three to Arrive

Antioch, Tenn.—Two missionary couples arrived in the United States in December and another in January. Two more couples and a single missionary are to arrive in April.

The Robert Wests arrived from Côte d'Ivoire on December 10 to begin regular furlough. Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson arrived December 18 (news article on page 11) and Bobby and Geneva Poole arrived from Brazil on January 20.

Arriving in April will be Jerry and Carol Pinkerton and Ken and Marvis Eagleton from Côte d'Ivoire and Miss Charolette Tallent from France.

Board Appoints Hart, Creeches, 18 Students

Nashville, Tenn.—The Board of Foreign Missions met December 6-8, 1993, in Nashville, Tenn. The meeting on Monday evening and Tuesday was held at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Nashville where they joined other boards and state leaders in the biennial Free Will Baptist Leadership Conference.



Children at Kita Hiroshima Chapel in Sapporo, Japan, act out the story of "The Three Trees" during the Christmas program on December 18.

A special session was held with Grigori Komendant, president of the Union of Evangelical Christian Baptists of the Commonwealth of Independent States (see January-February *Heartbeat*).

The board moved to the National Offices in Antioch on Wednesday where the following actions were taken:

Paul and Rhoda Creech, short-term missionaries to Côte d'Ivoire, were appointed to full status missionaries. Miss Tanya Hart of Greenville, N.C., was appointed as a short-term missionary to teach at the International Christian Academy in Ivory Coast.

Also appointed to serve this summer were 18 students.

Accompanying missions teacher Eddie Payne to Panama will be seven students from Free Will Baptist Bible College—Brent Thompson,

Kirkville, Mo.; Kris Shoemaker, Mansfield, Oh.; Stephanie McElhaney, Bratt, Fla.; Cynthia Diane Milom, Chapmansboro, Tenn.; Jose Rodriguez, Miami, Fla.; Anthony Edgmon, Nashville, Tenn.; Angie Duncan, Seffner, Fla.; and one student from Hillsdale FWB College—Charles Brown, Denison, Tex.

Four students will go to Japan to work with Miss Debbie Griffin: Bobbie Sue Boren of Ada, Okla., from Hillsdale; Sylva Rhea Genell Boyce of Goldsboro, N.C., from Southeastern FWB College; and Kristi Hanna of Hemingway, S.C., and Priscilla Barnes of West Columbia, S.C., from FWBBC.

Former MK Justin Banks of Cushing, Okla., a student at Hillsdale, will serve in the Kita Hiroshima church under supervision of Don and Ruth McDonald. Miss Sherri Howell of Florence, S.C., a student

Continued on page 14 ➔



Miss Tanya Hart (above) will serve one year at International Christian Academy in Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire. Paul and Rhoda Creech (below) became full status missionaries after serving three years as short-term missionaries.



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From Internet:

carole@fwbfm.mhs.compuserve.com

From CompuServe:

MHS:carole@fwbfm

News Update

→ Continued from page 13

of Southeastern, will work with Dave Jr. and Becky Franks in Uruguay. Randy and Mary Ann Hill of Hillsdale will serve in St. Sebastien, France, under the Dennis Teagues and Cathy Crawford. Randy is from Modesto, Calif., while Mary hails from Bonne Terre, Mo.

Two students also were approved for summer ministries in the Commonwealth of Independent States if arrangements can be made: Eddie

Hobbs, Effingham, S.C., and Sean Warren of Granite City, Ill., both from FWBBC.

Board and staff members laid hands on Lloyd and Betty Plunkett and prayed with them. The Plunketts were scheduled to leave for Africa a few days after the meeting.

Mrs. Shirley Lauthern, secretary to the general director, was honored with a gift and card from the board for serving 25 years with the department.

sent for the event. Several of these were in the St. Nazaire church for the very first time.

Japan—Jim and Olena McLain rejoiced recently as they reported the pouring of the foundation for the new Higashi Tsukisamu church building in Sapporo, Japan. They are hoping to be in the new building by spring.

Panama City, Fla.—Lyndon Deeds, oldest son of missionaries Earnie and Jean Deeds in Brazil, was married to Candacy Youmans in Panama City, Fla., on January 15. The couple plans to live in Moore, Okla.

France—According to missionary Allan Crowson, approximately 20 students from three different churches are involved in classes of the Bible institute at various levels. Crowson expressed praise for the increased interest shown by the students.

Licking, Mo.—Emy Lee Barker, 77-year-old mother of missionary Jean Deeds in Brazil, died Friday, January 21, of a sudden coronary failure. She was buried on January 24 in Licking, Mo. Jean was unable to come home for the funeral. Her father, the Reverend Lewis Barker, is still living.

Japan—Missionary Don McDonald is scheduled to teach "Free Will Baptist Doctrines" during 1994 in the Bible training program being developed for churches in the Sapporo area. Don and Free Will Baptist Bible College alumna Kazumi Nabeno have cooperated in translating this into Japanese.

Nashville, Tenn.—Dave Franks, senior missionary to Brazil, underwent surgery on January 12 in Nashville for prostate cancer. Doctors reported no cancer cells were found in the lymph nodes or surrounding tissue. Christians have been urged to continue to pray for Dave as he recovers from this surgery.

Chicago, Ill.—Jerry Jr. and Melody Pinkerton became parents for the second time on October 19 as Anna-Jean Pinkerton joined her sister Jessica Joy. She is the fourth grandchild of Jerry and Carol Pinkerton in Ivory Coast.

Côte d'Ivoire—Lloyd and Betty Plunkett arrived safely in Côte

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Brazil—In December the choir from the First Free Will Baptist Church in Araras, Brazil, presented a Christmas cantata—"Prince of Peace"—at the culture center, public library, in the town square, and in the church.

France—Missionary Patsy Vanhook has requested prayer for Jean and Janine Cellier, a couple who direct a small French-English school in the area of St. Nazaire, France. Patsy has visited in their home and has had a long discussion of spiritual matters. At the end of two hours of discussion, Mr. Cellier commented that he had been enlightened. Pray that God will open their hearts to the truth of the gospel.

Côte d'Ivoire—Ken Eagleton Sr. was taken to Conservative Baptist Hospital at Ferkessedougou, Côte d'Ivoire, on December 29. He was diagnosed with a rare strain of pneumonia. Recent reports indicate he also had malaria but is now recovering well.

Jacksonville, N.C.—Stephen and Vivian Ellison have a new son, Ethan Christian, born on December 8 in Jacksonville, N.C. Ethan is the sixth grandchild of missionaries Walter and Marcia Ellison.

Côte d'Ivoire—Jerry and Carol Pinkerton in Bondoukou, Côte d'Ivoire, reported the discovery of 105 cases of cholera in a town about 50 miles south of Doropo. Thirteen people have died.

France—Youth of the St. Nazaire church in France sponsored a Christian concert on a Saturday night in November. They invited friends and family members. Approximately 125 people were pre-

Special Gifts

These individuals gave special gifts in December and January in memory or in honor of friends or loved ones:

Donor	In Memory Of
Bob and Peggy Miller McAlester, Tex.	Evelyn Hersey
Sharon Farmer Shallowater, Tex.	Peggy Cherry
Chris Farmer Shallowater, Tex.	James W. Farmer
Oak Hill FWB Church Union, Mich.	Charles Martin
Chester and Ruby Huckaby Columbus, Ga.	Mae Weeks
Tom and Jan Duffy Dearborn, Mich.	Dr. Bobby Porter
Rev. and Mrs. William Morris Statesboro, Ga.	Evelyn Hersey
Don and Billie Sexton Elizabethton, Tenn.	Jerry Presley Danny Howell Evelyn Hersey
Ruby Edwards Rocky Mount, N.C.	Marvin Edwards
June Trimble Hermitage, Tenn.	Wade Trimble
R. E. Waddell Nashville, Tenn.	Joyce Baker J. A. Joslin Beni Kouame Daniel
Mr. and Mrs. William Johnson Joelton, Tenn.	Joyce Baker
Hancock Middle School Lewisport, Ky.	Joyce Baker
Van and Sue Paschall Royal Oak, Mich.	Francie Orr
Donor	In Honor Of
R. E. Waddell Nashville, Tenn.	E. B. McDonald Ronald Creech
Black River FWB Church Adult Sunday School Class Andrews, S.C.	Homer Floyd B. B. Wattford

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

d'Ivoire in December and have begun their ministry at International Christian Academy in Bouake. Classes started on January 4, and the Plunketts reported their dorm is full.

Crawford Urges Prayer for Elderly Contacts

France—Missionary Cathy Crawford has urged people to pray for 92-year-old Monsieur Chevance and for 89-year-old Madame Landré. Both of these are neighbors of Nicole who was baptized in October.

Cathy has given the Gospel of John to both of these elderly people. Madame Landré told Crawford recently that she had read the Gospel. Cathy urged Christians to pray that she will be able to witness effectively to these two.

Deeds Says Brazil Inflation Highest Ever

Brazil—According to a January report by missionary Earnie Deeds in Conselheiro Lafaete, Brazil, inflation in Brazil during 1993 reached a record high. Costs at the end of the year stood at 2,567.46 percent higher than those at the end of 1992.

Deeds also noted that unemployment continues to be a serious problem. Seven people in the Lafaete church cannot find steady work.

Earnie expressed praise that eight people had been saved in Lafaete during 1993 and several were taking classes to prepare for baptism and church membership.

Joint Choir Sings at Church and Downtown

France—A joint choir from the Nantes and St. Nazaire Free Will Baptist churches in France sang downtown at St. Nazaire on December 22. The group also sang in the church.

The children and young people presented skits and handled the technical side of the program. The theme centered on "Christmas Around the World" and featured customs from several countries. At least 20 unsaved people were present who had never attended the church prior to this. Approximately 200 people were present for the program.

Financial Summary Through December 31

\$ubstance

Total income for December.....	\$ 608,289.42
Total income through December.....	4,035,919.13
Total disbursements through December.....	4,057,331.95
Projected income through December.....	4,379,332.00
Total 1993 Budget.....	\$ 4,379,332.00
VISION gifts through December.....	\$ 104,599.24

\$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Callaway.....	\$ 3,201.26	Poole.....	\$ 6,445.57
Cowart.....	2,025.04	Robinson.....	5,764.52
Crech.....	10,895.83	Snow.....	2,577.19
Crosby.....	20,526.90	Sturgill.....	16,679.02
Crowson.....	5,284.00	Teague.....	4,979.22
Franks Sr.....	25,367.54	Thompson.....	323.81
Hanna.....	4,170.58	West.....	14,951.32
Midgett.....	1,182.63	Wiley.....	4,452.01
Morgan.....	2,117.09	General Fund.....	31,230.80
Nichols.....	18,278.55	Spec. Committee.....	18,882.34
Total.....			\$199,334.42

\$inking

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

Combs.....	\$ 301.90	Ellison.....	\$ 475.02
Eagleton Sr.....	554.14	Gibbs.....	1,214.01

State Goals—1993

State	Goal 1993	Goal Over (Under)	Contributions Through December 1993
Alabama.....	\$ 186,000	(\$ 24,813.69)	\$ 161,186.31
Arizona.....	6,200	(273.90)	5,926.10
Arkansas.....	218,000	64,138.82	282,138.82
California.....	89,000	(14,714.70)	74,285.30
Colorado.....	6,800	994.45	7,794.45
Florida.....	92,000	(19,567.07)	72,432.93
Georgia.....	179,000	(36,767.62)	142,232.38
Hawaii.....	4,000	(1,585.00)	2,415.00
Idaho.....	2,000	765.13	2,765.13
Illinois.....	125,000	(22,299.68)	102,700.32
Indiana.....	55,000	(22,978.49)	32,021.51
Iowa.....	3,000	(124.75)	2,875.25
Kansas.....	27,000	(14,109.29)	12,890.71
Kentucky.....	82,000	(6,357.22)	75,642.78
Louisiana.....	300	1,237.53	1,537.53
Maryland.....	30,000	(18,637.93)	11,362.07
Michigan.....	155,000	34,550.40	189,550.40
Mississippi.....	72,000	(1,850.04)	70,149.96
Missouri.....	413,000	(92,576.28)	320,423.72
Montana.....	2,000	(455.00)	1,545.00
Nebraska.....	1,500	(714.00)	786.00
New Mexico.....	2,000	(61.55)	1,938.45
* Northeast Assn.....	6,000	(3,700.00)	2,300.00
** Northwest Assn.....	8,000	3,410.13	11,410.13
North Carolina.....	535,000	(8,991.07)	526,008.93
Ohio.....	133,000	(9,956.49)	123,043.51
Oklahoma.....	432,000	(52,475.49)	379,524.51
Pennsylvania.....	00	1,115.00	1,115.00
South Carolina.....	227,000	7,448.13	234,448.13
Tennessee.....	650,000	(15,751.98)	634,248.02
Texas.....	138,000	(46,035.63)	91,964.37
Virginia.....	144,000	(32,430.96)	111,569.04
Virgin Islands.....	2,500	(284.30)	2,215.70
West Virginia.....	87,000	13,932.88	100,932.88
WNAC.....	120,000	32,285.86	152,285.86
Miscellaneous.....	146,032	(55,779.07)	90,252.93
Totals.....	\$4,379,332	(\$343,412.87)	\$ 4,035,919.13

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

** Northwest Association
Alaska, Oregon, and Washington

HEARTBEAT

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Post Office Box 5002
Antioch, Tennessee 37011-5002

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