

HEARTBEAT

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1996

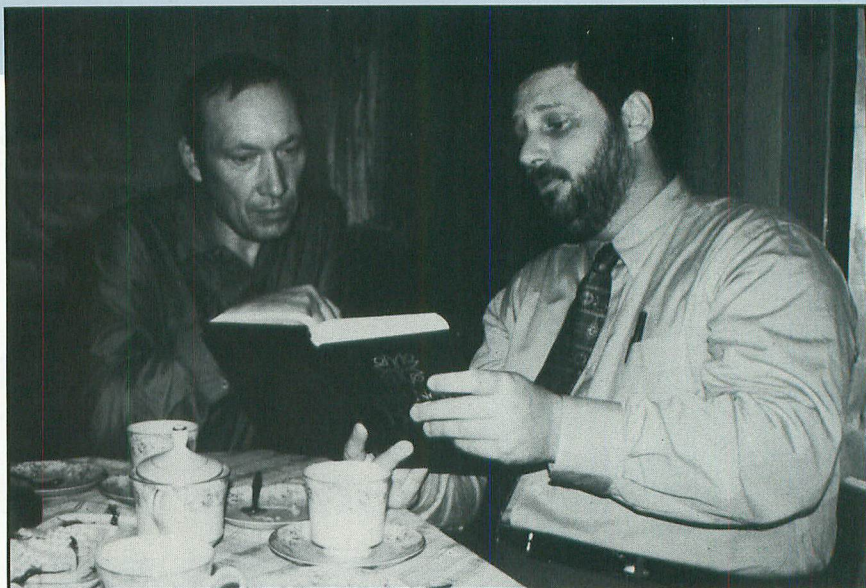
of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work around the world



SIGNS AND WONDERS

by Terry W. Eagleton



Terry Eagleton (right) explains the Scriptures to Gennady Fiodorovitch Pashnin, a retired Russian Naval Commander.

Is it a sign from the gods?" I was unprepared for the question even though I was part of a team seeking to provide answers for people in darkness.

That unexpected moment came as a result of a challenge I received from an announcement at our 1995 National Association meeting in Charlotte, N.C. Plans called for a witnessing team to go to Russia to help a Russian Baptist missionary establish a new church. I was drawn to the mission but was concerned with the expense of the endeavor as well as the time it would require away from my congregation.

Within a month of the convention, Jamie (my wife) and I received the answer to prayer and the blessings of our church to accept the invitation. Our small congregation also provided all the funds necessary for the trip.

Ten other people accepted the challenge and got approval from the missions staff and the Board of Foreign Missions. With team leaders Jimmy and Janie Aldridge, this brought the total

to 14 team members. But as time for departure approached, four of those selected were hindered from going: Tony Hendrix of Madison, Ala., had to drop out since he could not leave his job; Junior Phillips of Poteau, Okla., underwent neck surgery; and Steve Hasty of Nashville, Tenn., suffered a heart attack. Although he and his wife, Carolyn, were unable to go, their daughter, Heather, did fulfill her role on the team as did Junior Phillips' wife, Denise.

Our 15-hour flight carried us across 11 time zones in three days.

Nine members of the team met at the airport in Nashville, Tenn., on June 15: Richard and Carolyn Hendrix and Mike and Cathy Corley of Madison, Ala.; Heather Hasty, Jimmy and Janie Aldridge, and my wife and I of Nashville. We were joined by Denise Phillips in Detroit, Mich., where we had a layover.

With the team complete, we took to the sky again as questions raced through our minds regarding the coming two weeks. What did God have in store for us? Could we really make any kind of impact in just a few days? What about the language barrier? Weren't these people hostile to Americans? How would we be accepted?

Our 15-hour flight carried us across 11 time zones in three days (51 hours of "local time" travel). As the plane approached Chelyabinsk, Russia, at the southeast foot of the Ural mountains, we viewed the beautiful landscape surrounding the city. It rests just twelve kilometers from our final destination of Kopeysk. The dark, rich-colored ground and the green grass stood in stark contrast to the deep blue waters of the many lakes in the region.

As we deplaned, our Russian brothers and sisters who were in the welcome delegation received us with open arms and genuine smiles. The 20-minute bus ride to our residence resounded with many questions



Mike Corley (right) and Richard Hendrix (center) distribute Bibles in a hospital in Kopeysk.

from both directions. Although the signs outside sported letters unknown by most of us, familiar brand names caught our eyes: Sprint, AT&T, Sony, Mitsubishi, Adidas, CNN, MasterCard, etc.

The first morning of our ministry in Kopeysk began following our first good night's sleep in several days. After breakfast, Brother Aldridge led us in a devotional thought. A time of prayer followed.

Subsequent to our devotional time, Pastor Nicolay Sobolev, our host, and missionary/deacon Sergey Krupoderov, met with us to lay out the general plans for our two-week ministry. A house of culture auditorium had been rented for the evenings of June 22-30. Some 18 thousand flyers had been mass mailed to the residents of Kopeysk. Another two thousand were to be distributed personally.

In addition to the mailing, an advertisement had been running in the local newspaper, on local radio and on two television stations. Posters had also been placed in every business which

would allow them and beside every public telephone downtown.

Our task called for follow-up on the media advertisement with personal contacts. During the first week we visited city officials, hospitals, museums, and a coal mine. Each institution we visited invited us to address its employees and/or patients, etc. We were questioned as to the reason for our visit to Russia and were able to share our personal testimonies of conversion, witness through songs of the faith, and proclaim the gospel. These visits provided thousands of personal contacts.

The second week involved more personal and institutional visits in the day and special evangelistic services in the evening. The very first service brought 175 persons under the sound of the gospel. Probably 80 percent of them heard the gospel for the very first time.

At the conclusion of the initial service, a balding, middle-aged man approached me near the platform. He looked me in the

eyes and said in understandable English, marked with a thick Russian accent: "I had heard there would be a meeting here this evening. For several days I have considered coming. This afternoon, shortly after making up my mind to attend, I found this clock." Reaching into his pocket, he produced a pocket watch and queried, "Is it a sign of the gods?"

As I stood speechless, not quite knowing how to answer, he continued: "I think it is. Do you have a watch?" I thought his question meant he wanted to set the time on his new watch. Since I was not wearing a watch, I couldn't help him. Suddenly, he took off his wristwatch and gave it to me: "It is not good for me to have two and you have none!"

One hundred or more came forward for prayer during the invitations and 62 of these filled out a form asking to participate in a three-month discipleship class.

I was stunned. Back in Tennessee I had a box in a drawer with four pocket watches and one wristwatch I can't stand to wear. But this was my introduction to Gennady Fiodorovitch Pashnin, a retired Russian Naval Commander.

Later, I visited the commander in his home and met his family and neighbors. I also gave him a copy of the Scriptures. He began devouring its contents and within days he

Continued on page 4 ➔

→Continued from page 3

was talking of changes he needed to make in his life in order to conform to scriptural teaching. At last report, he had learned from the Gospel of John that there is but one true God. And he had declared his faith: "I believe in this God!"

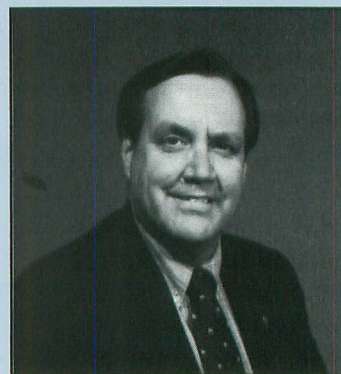
The second evening produced an audience of 225 attenders and for the week we estimated a total of over 300 different people came to services at one time or another. One hundred or more came forward for prayer during the invitations and 62 of these filled out a form asking to participate in a three-month discipleship class for new believers.

Although the food in Russia is different, the climate harsh, and the people somewhat "stand-offish" at first, never in my life have I seen an entire segment of the human race as open and interested in new concepts and spiritual truth. And while this is a day of opportunity in Russia, the country is also plagued by the bombardment of pornography, modern philosophical propaganda of false cults, and other gospels.

I thank God for the early results in Kopeysk, and I am praying for Pastor Sergey as he does the follow-up and seeks to establish a faithful, fruitful church in that city of 80,000 people. I'm glad I was invited to be a member of this witnessing team. May God help us as Free Will Baptists to seize the moment for the Kingdom and tackle other similar opportunities while the doors remain open!

Terry W. Eagleton is pastor of Horton Heights FWB Church in Nashville, Tenn. He is the son of missionaries Ken and Marvis Eagleton.

GOD'S SPECIAL MESSAGE!



by Steve Hasty

It came in odd wrapping paper. Even more bizarre was the setting in which I received it. Clearly, the postmark said *Heaven*. Since it was addressed to me and marked *personal*, I was more than a little excited. I can assure you, this special message had my undivided attention!

Let me explain.

I was flat on my back. I had just experienced my first, and hopefully my last, ambulance ride. Its speed and the urgent wail of the siren shouted to the scattering motorists that I was really sick. The emergency medical technician beside my stretcher radioed ahead to the hospital to prepare for a heart

attack victim.

The doctor said one of my arteries was completely blocked and that, although nearly midnight, it was time for a "balloon party." Of course, he meant angioplasty. Later, with the procedure over and the pain gone, I was situated comfortably in the Cardiac Care Unit, joking with my nurse. It was early Sunday morning.

"You must hurry," I told the nurse, laughing. "This heart attack just isn't in my schedule. I simply must get out of the hospital this morning in time to preach at my friend's church at 11:00 a.m. sharp! And, for goodness sake, I have to be ready to leave on a missions trip

to Russia in less than two weeks!"

Behind my nurse, almost unnoticed, was a young man in a white lab coat, whom I had mistakenly thought was of Hispanic descent.

"You are going to Russia?" he asked with a noticeable accent. "What part?"

"Chelyabinsk," I answered, half expecting him to ask me where that was.

"Ah, Chelyabinsk," he said, pronouncing it much better than I had. "I have been there many times."

I was stunned and surprised. My mind started reeling. I was suddenly intensely interested in this young man. Who was he? Where was he from? What had he done in Chelyabinsk? What was it like there? When and why had he come to the United States?

His name was Usik, pronounced like music, only without the m-sound. He was from Armenia, one of the republics within the former Soviet Union, located south of Chelyabinsk, Russia. He had an engineering degree and had made his living traveling from city to city servicing and repairing computers.

What Usik said next floored me. Chelyabinsk, in his opinion, was one hundred years behind Africa in development! Furthermore, he felt it was getting worse. He said that since the fall of the totalitarian Communist government, people ignored the law and did whatever they liked. Before, they had been forced to live within certain legal and ethical guidelines. Now, in a mysterious way, the collapse of their atheistic government had left

them in a moral vacuum.

What a paradox! This was a strange juxtaposition of godless and godly! I made a mental note to check out Judges 17:6 and 21:25 again.

"You must hurry," I told the nurse, laughing. "This heart attack just isn't in my schedule."

I seized the chance to explain to Usik some of the reasons why I was going to Chelyabinsk. First, I was going as a minister to share the gospel. But, I was also going as a Christian businessman. In speaking to Russian business people, I wanted to stress the importance of biblical morals in business as the reason why the United States had prospered above other nations.

I gave just one illustration to prove my point. The whole "charge it, I'll take it" credit system in America is based on the credibility of a person's promise to pay. In spite of obvious flaws in our system, the strength of the American economy could be traced to one historic, Bible-based underpinning: A man's word is his bond. Passed down from generation to generation by Christians and non-Christians alike, this Christian virtue has embedded itself into the very fabric of our society.

Usik's eyes lit up. He shared how, until leaving the former USSR six years ago, he barely got by. Most of the meager amount he earned was spent just to buy food. He had come to America for economic and religious reasons. Now, he felt, he could live better and possibly

get ahead. Now, he was not persecuted for his belief in God. He was Gregorian Orthodox, part of the Eastern Orthodox (Catholic) Church.

That's when it hit me—hard—like the impact of a runaway locomotive.

I must have lit up like a Christmas tree. Later on, I sobbed like a baby with the delight of it all. Far faster than the speed of light, faster even than a special delivery package, and from a much greater distance—impossible through the U.S. mail—God had faxed me a very special message of love.

I could barely see it through the happy tears, the heart monitor wires, and the IV tubes. But, nonetheless, my heart could have read it, even if I'd been blind. Unmistakably, at least to me, it read:

"Steve, you can't go to Chelyabinsk. But I've sent Chelyabinsk to you!"

Talk about feeling loved? All I can say is, "Well, GLORY!"

Steve Hasty, an ordained minister, is an insurance agent and member of Donelson FWB Church in Nashville, Tenn.

Editor's note: Heather Hasty, Steve and Carolyn's daughter, traveled with the evangelistic team to Russia and had a fruitful ministry. Steve and Carolyn hope to go on another witnessing effort, perhaps next year.

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Vol. 36, No. 5

September-October 1996

Editor: Don Robirds

Editorial Assistant: Don Price

Artist: Jim Johnson

Heartbeat (USPS 239-020) is published bimonthly by the Board of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, 5233 Mt. View Road, Antioch, Tenn. 37013-2306. Second-class postage paid at Antioch, Tenn. and additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **Heartbeat**, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, Tenn. 37011-5002.



TEAM!

by
Ken
Eagleton
Sr.

...an eye opening experience!

I can't wait to go home and show my youth group how wonderful this trip was. I am a totally different person now!"

These words of one of the nine members of TEAM Brazil '96 reflect the impact of this summer ministry on the lives of the youth involved. But these young people also made an impact on Free Will Baptist mission work in Brazil.

From June 18 to July 10, TEAM Brazil '96 traveled 1,500 miles in two states of Brazil sharing their love and faith in

Jesus as their Savior. Eleven churches felt the spiritual warmth and moving force of their exciting ministry. Souls were saved, lives rededicated, friendships formed, and new contacts for the missionaries were made as they ministered to larger than usual crowds.

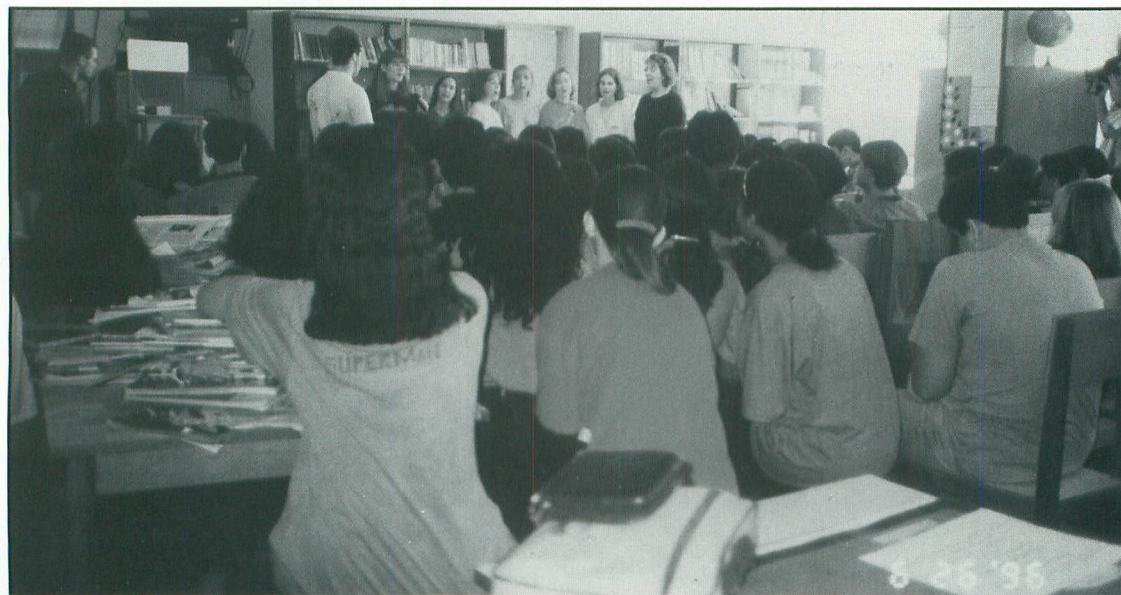
TEAM (Teens Equipped and Active in Missions) is designed to provide Free Will Baptist youth with an intense introduction to missions and hands-on cross-cultural evangelistic experience. Prior to

the three weeks spent in Brazil, TEAM members met on the campus of Free Will Baptist Bible College for a week of intensive training sessions. Choral training consumed five hours a day while orientation regarding language, customs, evangelism in another culture and bonding as a team occupied another seven hours.

One TEAM member wrote: "The orientation and training sessions were great! It prepared me for the mission field so I wouldn't be totally shocked when I got there." Another member said training sessions "really got me into a great spirit to come to Brazil. I grew spiritually and God has definitely blessed my life."

"Being a part of TEAM Brazil has greatly opened my eyes to needs."

In one city in Brazil, students of a private English school invited TEAM members to stay in their homes overnight. At services that night the students and the couple who own the school were all present. It was the first time for many of them



TEAM Brazil '96 (above) prepares to sing in a church.

The TEAM (left) presents a program at a public school in Brazil.

to be in a Protestant church service. This should open up new opportunities for the missionaries.

"Being a part of TEAM Brazil has greatly opened my eyes to needs," declared one member of the group. "I have seen firsthand the needs of the missionaries, and especially the need of the Brazilian people."

TEAM members distributed flyers and invitations in the neighborhood of three different churches, presented their witness at three public schools, and worked in two vacation Bible schools. They were treated to a special luncheon at the LAR NOVA VIDA, the home for street children operated by the church in Araras, Brazil.

Perhaps these activities stimulated one TEAM member to express to us, "This is a very wonderful opportunity for the youth. It also, in my opinion, brings us closer to God in many ways. Thank you from the bottom of my heart." A young man on TEAM said the trip "exposed me to missions . . . this may be what God would have me do."

Two high school English classes invited the TEAM to visit. The group arrived at the school at recess time and were immediately surrounded by students who pressed in on them. TEAM director Tim Ferguson feared for their safety. But the students just wanted to talk and hear the Americans talk. The teenagers presented 25 minutes of music and testimony to each class. They also answered a multitude of questions fired at them by the students. Because interest of the students was overwhelming, the

school principal asked if the TEAM would present another 25-minute program to the junior high English students. The entire school was aware of the TEAM presence and received an invitation to the church services that night.

TEAM members will not soon forget their experiences with God. Their ministry brought comments such as, "TEAM Brazil was GREAT! I had a wonderful time and I wouldn't trade it for anything. I have made the greatest friends I'll ever meet and I've become so close to God." Another added, "It (the trip) has really opened my eyes to missions . . . it has totally changed my life."

Two high school English classes invited the TEAM to visit.

One member of TEAM perhaps best summarized the feelings of the whole group: "The trip was priceless. Absolutely priceless . . . because of the thrill of seeing people of another world as brothers and sisters; because of seeing the same Holy Spirit at work in a foreign place; because of the beautiful, lifelong friendships made with every TEAM member. I have naturally been challenged and encouraged to lengthen and strengthen my personal devotion time. I've begun to feel more of a close actual communion with God. Thank you for making TEAM possible."

Participating in TEAM Brazil '96 were Bridget Bowman of Batesville, Ark.; Jason Harbeck of Pembroke Pines, Fla.; Robert Morgan of Ashland City, Tenn.;

Kimberlee Scott of Johnsonville, S.C.; Christy Zimmerman of Liberal, Mo.; and four members from Illinois: Jennifer Dycus of Bonnie, Kari Ferguson of Waltonville, Amy Scott of Johnston City, and Joy Taylor of Cisne.

Free Will Baptists are blessed by the quality of the young people who went to Brazil this year. They came from seven different states but quickly bonded as a team. Their behavior, dedication and spiritual life were readily observed by the people. After a service one lady visiting the church commented to me as she praised the TEAM, "What a wonderful group! Their voices were absolutely angelic and they even knew how to stand on their feet right." It is a joy to work with youth who love the Lord and are ready to serve Him.

TEAM director Tim Ferguson of Waltonville, Ill., a member of TEAM Japan '94, and Marvis and I traveled with the group.

Veteran missionaries Ken and Marvis Eagleton Sr. are TEAM coordinators. They reside in Nashville, Tenn., and travel to the field for special assignments in addition to their work with TEAM.

TEACHERS NEEDED!

International Christian Academy in Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire, needs short-term teachers for the following areas:

- First, Second and Third Grade
- High School English
- Computer (all grades)
- Art (all grades)
- Music (all grades)
- Math (seventh and eighth grades)
- Special Education
- Middle School:
Math/Science/English/Social Studies

For information, contact the director of **International Christian Academy**, BP 1171, Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire, W. Africa or FWB Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002.

Many people, as I, have had the misconception that when a missionary asks for support it is mostly for personal needs. With our missionaries this is not accurate. I have prepared many graphs and charts which show how every dollar is spent for all missionaries. It is surprising how little of the support is actually to be used for personal items such as clothes, food, etc.

With our current system of fund-raising, quite a lot of money is spent simply raising

money. Some estimates indicate it takes about \$1 spent to raise \$3 of support. Just considering travel, lodging and meals, it costs quite a lot to hold services to raise support. To keep expenditures down, missionaries often stay with friends and family instead of in motels.

We, as the administrative staff, use a support sheet as a tool to determine if a missionary is fully funded and financially ready to go or return to the mission field. This support sheet analyzes the missionary's budget

in terms of annually recurring needs and one-time cash expenditures. Annually recurring needs are items such as salary, housing, utilities, evangelism, etc. that occur on a regular basis. One-time expenditures are those items needed to get the missionary to the field, such as airline tickets and shipping, or big purchases like equipment or a vehicle. They will not happen again for the rest of the term. This analysis allows us to determine a missionary's monthly and cash needs.

Refer to your March-April 1996 issue of *Heartbeat* to see a graph of The Missionary Dollar. This graph breaks down missionary expenditures. It helps us, as a staff, and the denomination to see the itemized list of missionary expenditures.

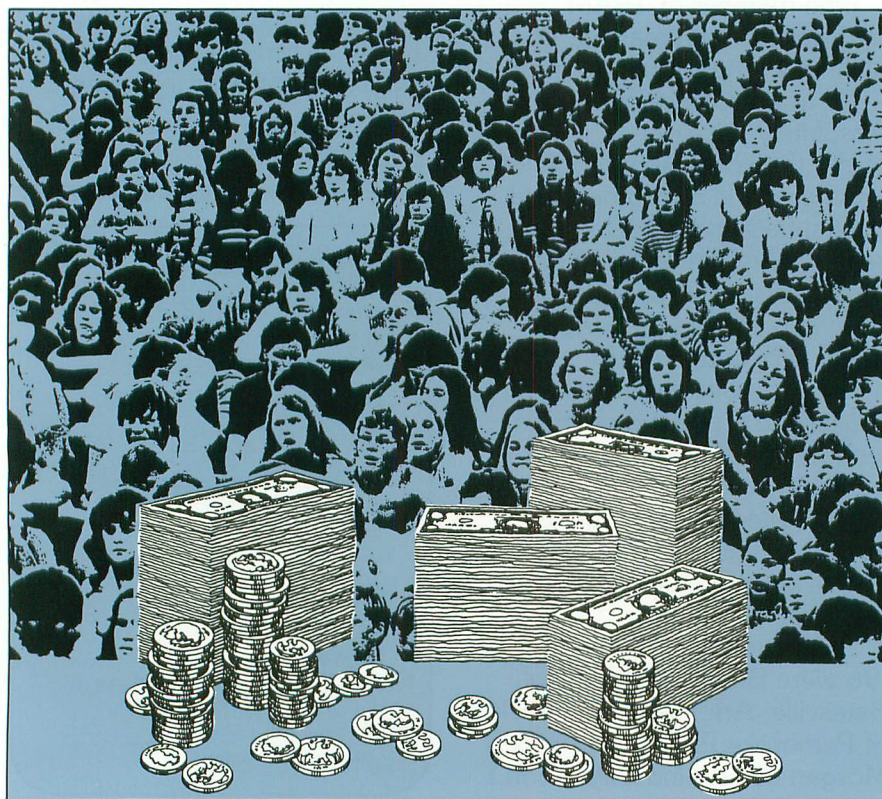
Why Do Missionaries Cost So Much?

by Robert Conley

One Big Mac in Japan costs \$2.80. One average size watermelon costs \$29.00.

One of the more difficult and complicated issues we have to face when discussing missionary finances is the difference of sending a missionary family to one field versus sending a comparable family to a different field. Many factors have to be considered when determining the necessary financial support for a missionary.

Let me give you an example. It is much more expensive to live in Japan than it is in Panama. The factors to be considered are currency exchange rates, housing costs, inflation, food, etc. Here are some examples of how



expensive things are in Japan:

One Big Mac in Japan costs \$2.80. An English newspaper costs \$1.60. A can of coke costs \$1.10. One average size apple costs \$1.00. One gallon of gasoline costs \$4.00. One liter of milk (a little larger than a quart) costs \$1.80. One game of bowling costs \$5.00. One average size watermelon costs \$29.00, and 70 miles on the tollways costs \$28.00.

In recent years, inflation in Brazil has ranged from 185 to 1,000 percent annually.

These figures are calculated with the yen-to-dollar exchange being at 100 yen to one dollar. Just a year ago the exchange rate was 80 yen to one dollar. This means that you could add 20 percent to the costs of each of these items.

Inflation and unfavorable exchange rates are very real and always possible in many of the countries where we minister. In recent years, inflation in Brazil has ranged from 185 to 1,000 percent annually. However, in July of 1994, the new currency was arbitrarily fixed at a rate higher than the U.S. dollar and inflation has declined. But prices of goods and services have greatly increased in terms of dollar costs. Gasoline is \$2.41 per gallon, the lowest-priced Chevrolet costs over \$11,000 (the nicest is over \$46,000!), a quarter-pounder hamburger with fries and a drink will cost about \$8, and a can of Coke will cost \$1.

Other factors, such as the fluctuation in the availability of resources, must also be

examined. Most of us in America will always be able to go to the grocery store and get a gallon of milk. This may not always be true on some of our mission fields. If it is available, the price may be astronomical. Some things not available may have to be shipped from some other area of the world at great expense.

The differences from country to country and area to area can be compared to those within our own country. In some areas of our country it is more expensive to live in or near a city. However, in other areas it is cheaper to live in town. These items all affect missionary finances.

At best, it is difficult to look at missionary finances and understand them logically. I have struggled with this one area the most. The Bible tells us that God's Word will not return void. We must seek God's will and trust Him to help us see how He is working in situations where we may not always see immediate response.

From a business perspective, many things must be considered when we calculate the total cost of supporting a missionary. These line items are included in calculating a missionary's budget: salary, cost of living adjustments, social security taxes, field housing, stateside housing, transportation, medical expenses, medical insurance, auto purchases and expenses, travel to and from the field and children's schooling. They also include language study, furniture and appliances, foreign taxes, special projects, newsletters, equipment, rent on meeting places, maintenance of mission property, evangelism efforts and

materials and other supporting ministries. This extensive list should provide a clear picture of what is involved in financing a missionary.

We must always keep in mind that we cannot put a price tag on souls. Sometimes we may feel that money could be used to win more souls in a different region or a different country. However, we must acknowledge the fact that the people of that region or country will no longer be ministered to if we abandon them.

Remember, it is spiritual power and the gospel that save souls—not money. Unfortunately, many think the people who cannot or will not support financially will support a missionary in prayer. I would like to think that everyone a missionary contacts either by letter or in person becomes a prayer supporter. It is important that a missionary be fully supported in prayer, then the financial support can be truly effective.

We must always keep in mind that we cannot put a price tag on souls.

Prayer support is of utmost importance, but money is required for a missionary to get to the field. We are grateful for the generous gifts of many people across the country. Guided by God, they have supported these missionaries and made their ministries possible throughout the years.

Robert Conley is treasurer for the Department of Foreign Missions.

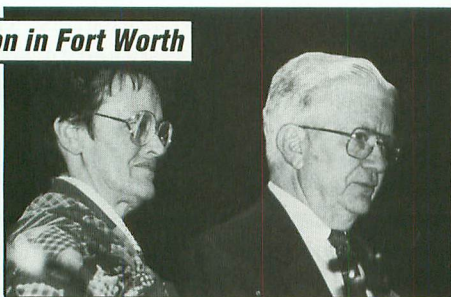
Thanks to Ken Eagleton Sr. and Fred Hersey for providing information on Brazil and Japan respectively.

News Update

National Association in Fort Worth



Steve Lytle (above) helps "Mom" Willey on Wednesday night.



Clockwise, top, center—Fay and Leroy Forlines speak during the foreign missions report; Walter Ellison introduces Naim, a convert, to Dr. Malcolm Fry; Marcia Ellison speaks at WNAC banquet; and Carlisle Hanna speaks during WNAC Tuesday worship service.

43 Foreign Missionaries Attend National Meeting

Fort Worth, Tex.—Forty-three foreign missionaries were on hand for the 1996 National Association meeting held in Fort Worth, Tex., July 21-25.

Many of the 6,771 people who registered for the convention witnessed both foreign and home missionaries parade across the platform on Wednesday evening prior to the message by Will Harmon of Texas. A Wednesday evening missionary offering of \$33,000 was received with undesignated funds to be divided equally between home and foreign missions.

During General Director R. Eugene Waddell's report on Wednesday, Leroy and Fay Forlines told of their four-month assignment in Russia and Ukraine. They declared the Russian Baptists to be Armenian, conservative and doctrinally sound.

Veteran missionary Carlisle Hanna of India challenged Women Nationally Active for Christ during their 11:00 a.m. service on Tuesday. And missionary Marcia Ellison of Uruguay delighted the crowd at the Tuesday evening WNAC banquet.

Other missionaries participating in WNAC activities included Marie Hanna, Elaine Holland, Patsy Vanhook, Mary Holland, and Susan Turnbough.

The National Association adopted a budget of \$4,451,765.88 for foreign missions for 1997 plus a projected \$493,850 for VISION projects.

Two new board members were elected to replace Galen Dunbar and Archie Mayhew, who were ineligible for reelection. David Williford of Florida and Bill Van Winkle of Mississippi were elected to six-year terms.



New board members elected at the National Association were David Williford (left) and Bill Van Winkle.

Bishop Reports One Saved at Koinonia

Japan—According to missionary Dale Bishop, a government worker in his mid-twenties was saved recently at the Koinonia church in Noporo, Japan.

"We praise the Lord for the salvation of Mr. Natsubori," writes Dale. "He has been attending regularly for a number of months and recently made his decision for Christ. He is the only Christian in a strong Buddhist family."

Bishop also expressed praise for the help of Kristie Bell, a student missionary who has been working with the church through the summer.

"Her musical talents made it possible for her to minister in the monthly concerts and prayer meetings as well as in Sunday worship services," Dale concluded.

Several Missionaries Return for Furlough

Antioch, Tenn.—Five missionary couples and two singles returned to the United States recently for furlough.

Bobby and Sue Aycock returned to the States from Barbacena, Brazil, on June 26 for a short furlough and were scheduled to return to the field August 23. Jim and Vickie Sturgill, who also minister in Brazil, returned August 6.

Dave Jr. and Becky Franks arrived from Uruguay on August 5, while Dennis and Carol Teague came home from France on June 30 for a short furlough. Dr. Paul and Tammy Gentuso returned from Côte d'Ivoire on July 14.

Returning to the States on July 15 after a five-year term in Japan was Debbie Griffin, while Patsy Vanhook arrived from France on June 25.

Six Saved at Camp in Minas Gerais, Brazil

Brazil—Some 51 people attended the central Minas Gerais youth camp in Brazil during the last week of July. Six campers accepted Christ as Savior: three juniors and three young people.

Mario Ribeiro from the Barbacena church preached at the night services of the camp while Dave Franks taught classes on prayer and Jim Sturgill taught on how to study the Bible. Pat Franks taught the juniors about prayer.

The campers came from Barbacena, Belo Horizonte, and Conselho Lafaiete.

Bailey Reports Convert from English Class

Japan—A recent report from Ken and Judy Bailey in Tokyo, Japan, indicated that Mrs. Tochikura became a Christian in late March after attending English classes since the fall of 1995.

According to Ken, "Mrs. Tochikura literally 'showed up' on our doorstep last fall after seeing us at a school sports event in the neighborhood. Figuring we must be connected to the local Christian church, she timidly rang our doorbell one morning and asked to study English and the Bible."

Judy Bailey began teaching her about two weeks later and noted her deep interest in Christianity. "Mrs. Tochikura was not only 'open' to the gospel, she was eager to learn more and more!" says Judy.

"This new convert and her enthusiastic witness to the unsaved," says Bailey, "has reawakened some of our older members who have stopped witnessing in recent years."

Deerfield Church Has International Ministry

Deerfield Beach, Fla.—The First Free Will Baptist Church of Deerfield Beach, Fla., is involved in an international ministry, according to pastor Billy Wilson. Since Mother's Day, a Haitian church has been meeting in the church's fellowship hall. They had 18 in attendance on the first day and 40 were present on July 7.

A Brazilian church is also meeting in the Sunday school building next to the pastor's office on Saturday and Sunday evenings. They recently organized with 29 people. Attendance has been between 15 and 18.

Pastor Wilson noted that the church had contributed approximately \$1,200 to the VISION project in Montevideo, Uruguay, in behalf of Dennis and Trena Owen.



The Terry Walker family is introduced to the National Association in Fort Worth just prior to their departure for Mongolia.

Agnibilekrou Church Construction Delayed

Côte d'Ivoire—Missionary Darryl Nichols reports that the construction on the church at Agnibilekrou is well underway, but storms have caused a severe setback as three wall panels were knocked down.

The storms not only caused a delay in construction but also caused the church to suffer a real financial loss.

Walkers Depart for Mongolia Assignment

Nashville, Tenn.—Terry and Ja-Nelda Walker of Springfield, Tenn., departed for San Dimas, Calif., on August 6 for a period of orientation and cross-cultural training. They were scheduled to leave for Dalandzadgad, Mongolia, on August 23 where they will be engaged in teaching English in an education center under the English Language Institute program.

The Walkers have three children: Anna, age 11; Mary, age 8; and Hannah Katherine, age one year and four months.

Hersey Says 80-Year-Old Convert Desires Baptism

Japan—Mrs. Uechi, an 80-year-old woman from Bihoro, Japan, has been saved and desires to be baptized this summer. According to missionary Fred Hersey, the woman

has a number of physical problems. He urged Christians to pray that she will be well enough to follow the Lord in believer's baptism sometime before summer ends.

Fred noted that Mizue Uechi, the daughter of the elderly lady, has been a member of the Bihoro church for many years.

Fred and June requested people to pray for the Mitsuyama family. The man is an English teacher at a junior high school and has been attending various services at the Bihoro church for about five years. "Pray that he and his wife will be saved," urged the Herseys.

St. Nazaire Church to Begin New Building

France—"Last year the Free Will Baptist church in St. Nazaire decided it was God's will and timing to build a Sunday school/fellowship and youth hall," writes Jerry Gibbs from France. Jerry says the youth have been asking for a place to meet and call their own.

The church purchased the property next to their present building and is hoping to begin construction in September.

Continued on page 12 →

Interested in a
Life-changing
Opportunity
for Service?

"The Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Department cooperates with English Language Institute/China to place individuals from our denomination in teaching positions in China, Mongolia and Vietnam.

None of us knows how long these doors will be open, so it's urgent that we get as many teachers as possible into the area. If you're interested in learning more about ELIC's programs, contact them today!"

R. Eugene Waddell
General Director

Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

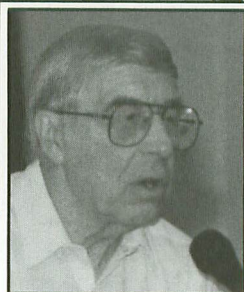
ELI 1-800-366-ELIC
English Language Institute
CHINA
In Partnership with Free Will Baptist

News Update



1996 Foreign Missions Retreat

Missiologist Dr. David Hesselgrave (above and in inset) speaks to missionaries, board and staff members during the foreign missions retreat at Free Will Baptist Bible College.



Missionaries at the retreat joined in one-on-one discussions (top) as well as intense group discussions (bottom) about field activities, etc.

—Continued from page 11

In 1989 several professional men went to France to help build the first building. Now a group from the First Free Will Baptist Church of Newport News, Va., has volunteered to go and put up this annex.

Gibbs urged people to pray that they would be able to get the building permit needed, to acquire the loan for the amount required and that no problems will arise from a billboard company which has several billboards on the property.

New Meeting Place in Araras Dedicated

Brazil—A small butcher shop/market on a corner in the neighborhood of Candida in Araras, Brazil, has been converted to house a new Free Will Baptist congregation. The meeting place was dedicated on May 4.

Combs says the Candida neighborhood has a population of approximately 20,000 people and this is the only evangelical group working in the area.

Foreign Missions Retreat Features Dr. Hesselgrave

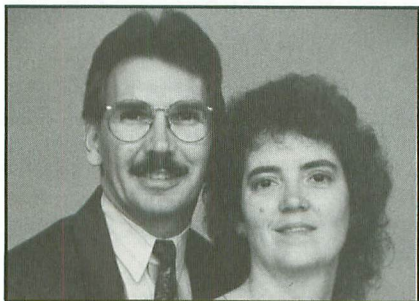
Nashville, Tenn.—The annual foreign missions retreat was held August 12-15 at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville. More than 100 missionaries, staff members, board members and guests gathered to hear Dr. David Hesselgrave, a highly esteemed missions professor, give insights into current missiological trends.

Reports for prayer and praise were given by representatives from Brazil, France, Spain, Côte d'Ivoire, Panama, Uruguay, Cuba, India and Russia. Teachers from China also reported on opportunities in that country.

The board met to deal with some timely issues and to interview candidates. They appointed Sam and June McVay of Nashville, Tenn., as missionaries to Spain and David and Annette Aycock of Florence, S.C., as short-term (two years) missionaries to Brazil.

The board also approved the peri-

Sam and June McVay (top) were appointed to serve as missionaries to Spain and David and Annette Aycock (bottom) were appointed to serve a short term in Brazil.



odic circulation of a newsletter especially designed for MKs. Miss Tanya Hart, former teacher at the school in Côte d'Ivoire, will produce the newsletter.

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Côte d'Ivoire—"We recently had our first American visitors!" write Mark and Kathy Paschall in Doropo, Côte d'Ivoire. "Pastor Keith Bartlett from the North Spartanburg (South Carolina) FWB Church and two members, Ray Hollifield and Ed Bryant, spent almost a week with us."

France—Youth in the churches at St. Nazaire and Nantes, France, traveled to Mossbach, Germany, during the first week of August to attend a week-long Christian youth rally. Joel and Ryan Gibbs and Daniel Riggs were among the young people making the trip. They were with about 500 young people from all over the world, as well as 150 adults. They had seminars, singing, Bible studies, games, etc. during the week.

Jasper, Ala.—Mrs. Hattie Aldridge, 91-year-old mother of Overseas Secretary Jimmy Aldridge, died in her sleep on July 3 in Jasper, Ala. She had been in declining health for several months.

Antioch, Tenn.—Lloyd and Betty Plunkett arrived in Nashville, Tenn., on July 11 after completing their term of interim service as dorm parents at International Christian Acad-



Pastor Paulo Conde of Brazil, shown here with his wife, Dalila, died in Campinas from complications caused by medication.

emy in Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire. Miss Tina Tolbert also returned to the U.S. in July after teaching one semester at ICA.

Japan—"Much to our wonder, we signed a contract on a house this afternoon, less than 48 hours after our arrival!" write Donnie and Ruth McDonald, who just returned to Japan. "The location is ideal—in a neighborhood with no church," the couple continued. "It's in Ebetsu, which is a suburb of Sapporo, and is between the Bishops' church and the Ai No Sato church."

Edmond, Okla.—Miss Tania Marita Combs, daughter of missionaries Jim and Shirley Combs, graduated with honors from Central Oklahoma University in July with a degree in International Business.

Côte d'Ivoire—Missionaries Jerry and Carol Pinkerton celebrated 25 years as missionaries in August of this year. They were appointed to missionary service in August of 1971.

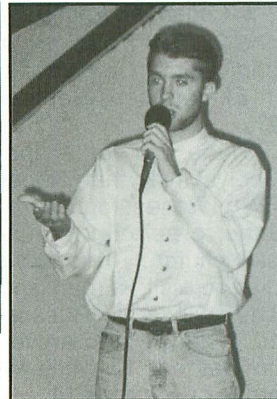
Brazilian Pastor Dies from Reaction to Medication

Brazil—Paulo Conde, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Campinas, Brazil, died on July 15 after a severe reaction to prescribed medication.

According to missionaries in Brazil, the pastor had been in intensive care since July 8 after he had the reaction. Funeral services were held



BRAZIL YOUTH CAMP—A group of young people (above) prepare to present a program at youth camp. Mark Cowart (right) was the evangelist for the July camp.



on July 16 in Campinas. Christians have been urged to pray for Conde's bereaved family and for the church, which must now regroup under new leadership.

Latest reports indicate that Natan, Paulo's son, is leading the church.

Riggs Reports Elderly Man Converted at Nantes

France—Missionary Steve Riggs in Nantes, France, recently reported visiting an older couple who had been attending church for about five weeks. "The Lord gave a discouraged missionary-pastor the privilege that day of praying with an elderly man as he trusted Christ as Savior." The new convert's name is Roger Caspecha.

Riggs stated that the Lord used Mr. Caspecha to remind him that God is working in a person's life even when when he is discouraged.

Spanish Laymen Assume Villalba Preaching Post

Spain—Since the departure of Dwain and Debbie Crosby from the field of Spain, the preaching responsibility of the Villalba Free Will Baptist Church in Spain has fallen on the shoulders of two young laymen in the church: Ruben Salido and Javier Roa.

According to missionary Lynn Midgett, the two young men have occasionally preached in the past, but are now discovering just how much time is needed to prepare for the biweekly task.

Miss Midgett expressed praise for the people in the church and noted that a church retreat in May had provided an opportunity to minister to four unsaved adults.

Mark Cowart Serves as Youth Camp Evangelist

Brazil—MK Mark Cowart went to Brazil on July 10 to serve as evangelist for the youth camp in Jaboticabal. Mark was accompanied by his fiancée, Rae Ann Pennington.

Reports indicated an attendance at camp of 92 people with eight decisions being recorded during the week. The couple returned to the United States on July 23.

Mark, the son of missionaries Jim and Karen Cowart, grew up in Brazil. The Cowarts are currently on leave of absence.

Waddell, Aldridge to Visit Europe, Russia

Antioch, Tenn.—General Director R. Eugene Waddell and his wife, Genevieve, left for Spain and France on August 29. Overseas Secretary Jimmy Aldridge is scheduled to leave the United States on September 21 and will join Mr. Waddell in Moscow, Russia, on September 23.

Genevieve is scheduled to accompany her husband to Frankfurt, Germany, and return to the United States while he proceeds to Russia.

The Waddells will visit missionary Lynn Midgett and the Free Will Baptist works in Spain until September 4 when they depart by rail for France. They will meet with the French field council and visit missionaries and their works until September 22, then they will travel to Frankfurt via train.

In Russia, Waddell and Aldridge will consult with Peter Konovalchik and Yuri Sipko, president and vice president of the Russian Baptist Union in Moscow, September 24

Continued on page 14 →

News Update

—Continued from page 13

and 25. They also are scheduled to participate in a pastor's conference in Ekaterinberg September 26 and 27.

Plans call for a special visit to Chelyabinsk, then Kopeysk where a FWB witnessing team labored in June to help lay groundwork for a new church. The duo also is scheduled to visit Kurgan and Noyabrisk. They will leave Russia on October 10. Aldridge is to arrive in Nashville on October 11 while Waddell is to arrive on October 14.

Forlines Return after Four Months in Russia

Antioch, Tenn.—Professor and Mrs. Leroy Forlines have completed their ministry in Russia after four months of traveling and lecturing. The couple left Khabarovsk in southeastern Russia on May 26 and traveled to Manila in the Philippines, where they visited relatives.

Special Gifts

These individuals gave special gifts in June and July in memory of friends or loved ones:

Donor	In Memory of
First FWB Church Washington, N.C.	Pete Winstead
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Craft Ft. Richardson, Ark.	Marguerite Kern
Lisa Ballantyne Maggie Valley, N.C.	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Atkins
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Johnson Macomb, Mich.	Gerald Cherry
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Johnson Knightdale, N.C.	Lawrence Tart
Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Steward Royal Oak, Mich.	Lola Filkins

The following gave special gifts in memory of Hattie Aldridge:

Mr. and Mrs. James Forlines Batesville, Ark.	Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gragg Nashville, Tenn.
Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Steward Royal Oak, Mich.	Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Aldridge Nashville, Tenn.
Jewel Kelly Cordova, Ala.	Mr. and Mrs. James Carnes Decatur, Ala.
Nancy Jones Nashville, Tenn.	

Clip and Mail Coupon

Special Gifts

Amount \$ _____ Date _____
 Given in memory/honor of _____
 Given by: Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Please send memorial/honorary card to:
 Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____



Missionary Jim Sturgill prepares to baptize Dirlene Paizante, the first to be baptized in the new baptistry of the Belo Horizonte FWB Church in Brazil. Dirlene's son, Pompilio, was also baptized that day.

The Forlines praised the Lord for the opportunity to meet and work with fellow believers all across Russia. They also expressed gratitude for the Lord's protection and provision during their travels.

On June 6 the couple flew to Sapporo, Japan, where they stayed with Fred and June Hersey and spent time with the other missionaries in that area. They returned to the United States via Hawaii and arrived in Nashville on July 10.

First Baptism Held in New Belo Baptistry

Brazil—The first baptismal service using the new baptistry was held on June 23 in the church at Belo Horizonte, Brazil. A young woman and her son were baptized.

According to missionaries Dave and Pat Franks, TEAM Brazil '96 was on hand to present a beautiful musical program and give testimonies on the same evening as the baptism. Several people attended church for the first time that evening. The team also helped distribute some 400 tracts and invitations in the neighborhood.

The Franks expressed excitement that a young man and his mother recently attended services after just moving to Belo Horizonte. They live approximately four blocks from the church. Since that first service, the young man has not missed a single service.

Warner and Three Leaders to Tour Côte d'Ivoire Work

Antioch, Tenn.—Fred Warner, director of missionary-church relations, will lead a group of three Free Will Baptist leaders on an awareness tour of Côte d'Ivoire. The group is scheduled to leave on September 23 and return on October 9.

The men hope to visit all of the FWB works, minister as opportunity permits and seek to encourage missionaries in their ministry. Those scheduled to make the educational and inspirational journey include David Joslin, promotional secretary

These will go to Côte d'Ivoire on an awareness tour: (top, left to right) Fred Warner and David Joslin; (bottom) Dr. James Cox and Jackie Creech.



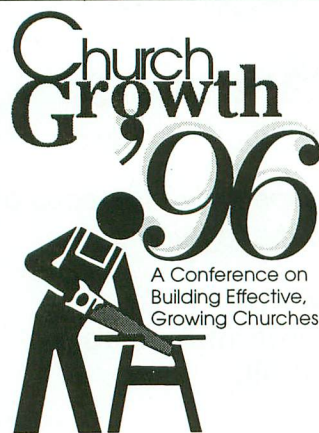
of Arkansas Free Will Baptists; Jackie Creech, pastor of Bellview FWB Church in Colquitt, Ga.; and Dr. James Cox, director of institutional effectiveness at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville.

The missionary field council in Côte d'Ivoire is arranging the itinerary, transportation, housing and activities for the group. Clint Morgan, field chairman in Ivory Coast, is in charge of the arrangements.

Deeds Reports Two Saved, Cites Construction Plans

Brazil—The Free Will Baptist church in Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil, has determined to begin construction of an apartment over the Sunday school rooms. Missionary Earnie Deeds is overseeing the project.

Earnie and Jean have urged people to pray for them as they have gone through a very difficult term. They have faced opposition in the work, some unwise decisions by some of the members, satanic oppression, etc. They also urged people to pray for Adriana and Sara, who recently were saved.



Featuring

Dr. Kenneth Hemphill

President, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Fort Worth, Texas

September 18-20, 1996

Sponsored by

Free Will Baptist Bible College

3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee

Financial Summary Through July 31

\$ubstance

Total income for June.....	\$ 382,207.26
Total income for July.....	378,244.51
Total income through July.....	2,458,681.15
Projected income through July.....	3,050,822.92
Total expenses through July.....	2,759,703.39
Total 1996 Budget (including VISION projections).....	\$ 5,229,982.15

\$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Bailey.....	\$ 10,248.58	Midget.....	\$ 1,885.37
Cowart.....	3,005.05	Owen.....	5,159.14
Crosby.....	13,710.39	Plunkett.....	4,749.84
Eagleton Sr.....	21,144.06	Robinson.....	4,805.94
Ellison.....	10,512.78	Sturgill.....	10,080.10
Franks, Sr.....	1,838.92	Teague.....	21,027.51
Griffin.....	8,142.68	Willey.....	8,251.71
Hanna.....	28,026.48	Wilson.....	523.61
Holland, C.....	13,545.17	Spec. Committee.....	18,882.34
Holland, E.....	4,925.29		
Total.....			\$ 195,214.79

\$inking

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

Barker.....	\$ 1,718.41	Hersey.....	\$ 359.76
Callaway.....	1,837.77	Poole.....	746.83

State Goals—1996

State	Goal 1996	Goal Through July	Contributions Through July
Alabama.....	\$ 183,624.80	\$ 107,114.47	\$ 123,246.73
Arkansas.....	316,612.43	184,690.59	177,638.63
Arizona.....	6,643.67	3,875.47	5,345.26
California.....	84,083.96	49,048.98	38,320.08
Canada.....	-	-	2,611.22
Colorado.....	8,823.63	5,147.11	3,204.00
Florida.....	82,007.81	47,837.89	45,256.52
Georgia.....	159,863.33	93,253.61	106,001.39
Hawaii.....	2,802.80	1,634.97	-
Idaho.....	3,114.22	1,816.63	1,339.21
Iowa.....	3,321.84	1,937.74	1,485.00
Illinois.....	117,226.16	68,381.93	81,618.42
Indiana.....	36,332.57	21,194.00	36,223.55
Kansas.....	14,533.03	8,477.60	5,913.02
Kentucky.....	85,122.03	49,654.52	35,785.36
Louisiana.....	1,764.73	1,029.42	1,132.04
Maryland.....	13,494.96	7,872.06	19,363.86
Michigan.....	207,805.08	121,219.63	86,304.85
Missouri.....	369,211.52	215,373.39	177,627.48
Mississippi.....	78,893.59	46,021.26	33,107.25
Montana.....	1,764.73	1,029.42	1,225.00
North Carolina.....	575,663.85	335,803.91	348,697.10
Nebraska.....	1,038.07	605.54	1,411.00
New Mexico.....	2,179.95	1,271.64	3,980.75
*Northeast Association.....	2,595.18	1,513.86	2,403.10
**Northwest Association.....	12,494.96	7,288.73	4,847.18
Ohio.....	138,063.78	80,537.21	99,941.11
Oklahoma.....	430,610.16	251,189.26	219,921.38
Pennsylvania.....	1,349.50	787.21	387.00
South Carolina.....	263,670.68	153,807.90	134,547.71
Tennessee.....	721,080.38	420,630.22	358,873.41
Texas.....	103,807.36	60,554.29	45,541.05
Virginia.....	125,606.90	73,270.69	61,177.48
Virgin Islands.....	2,491.38	1,453.30	1,275.00
West Virginia.....	115,188.09	67,193.05	66,989.14
WNAC.....	155,711.03	90,831.44	114,184.24
Miscellaneous.....	80,533.85	46,978.08	10,496.29
Totals.....	\$4,509,132.00	\$2,630,327.00	\$2,457,421.81

*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: Joe Grizzle, chairman; Dean Dobbs, vice-chairman; David Shores, secretary; Bill Reagan, Bill Jones, Milton Worthington, James Forlines, David Williford, Bill Van Winkle.

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

Please clip and mail this label with all correspondence.

*We're looking for a few
good teens!*

TEAM

- Teens with a desire to serve
 - Teens with talent
- Teens interested in going overseas
 - Teens ready to serve God



**Two teams planned
for 1997:
Panama/Cuba and
Russia**

Teens Equipped and Active in Missions

A member of TEAM Brazil '96 says:

"TEAM Brazil has opened my eyes to needs . . . of missionaries, and especially the needs of the Brazilian people. God has given me great love and compassion for these people."

If you are a teen with the above qualities and you want to be used by God, please clip and return the coupon below. You will receive more information about TEAM ministry and an application form by return mail.

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION TEAM MINISTRY

Name _____ () M () F

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Date of birth _____

Last grade completed _____ Home church _____

Pastor's name _____ Phone (____) _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____

Send your request to:

TEAM

Foreign Missions

P.O. Box 5002

Antioch, TN 37011-5002