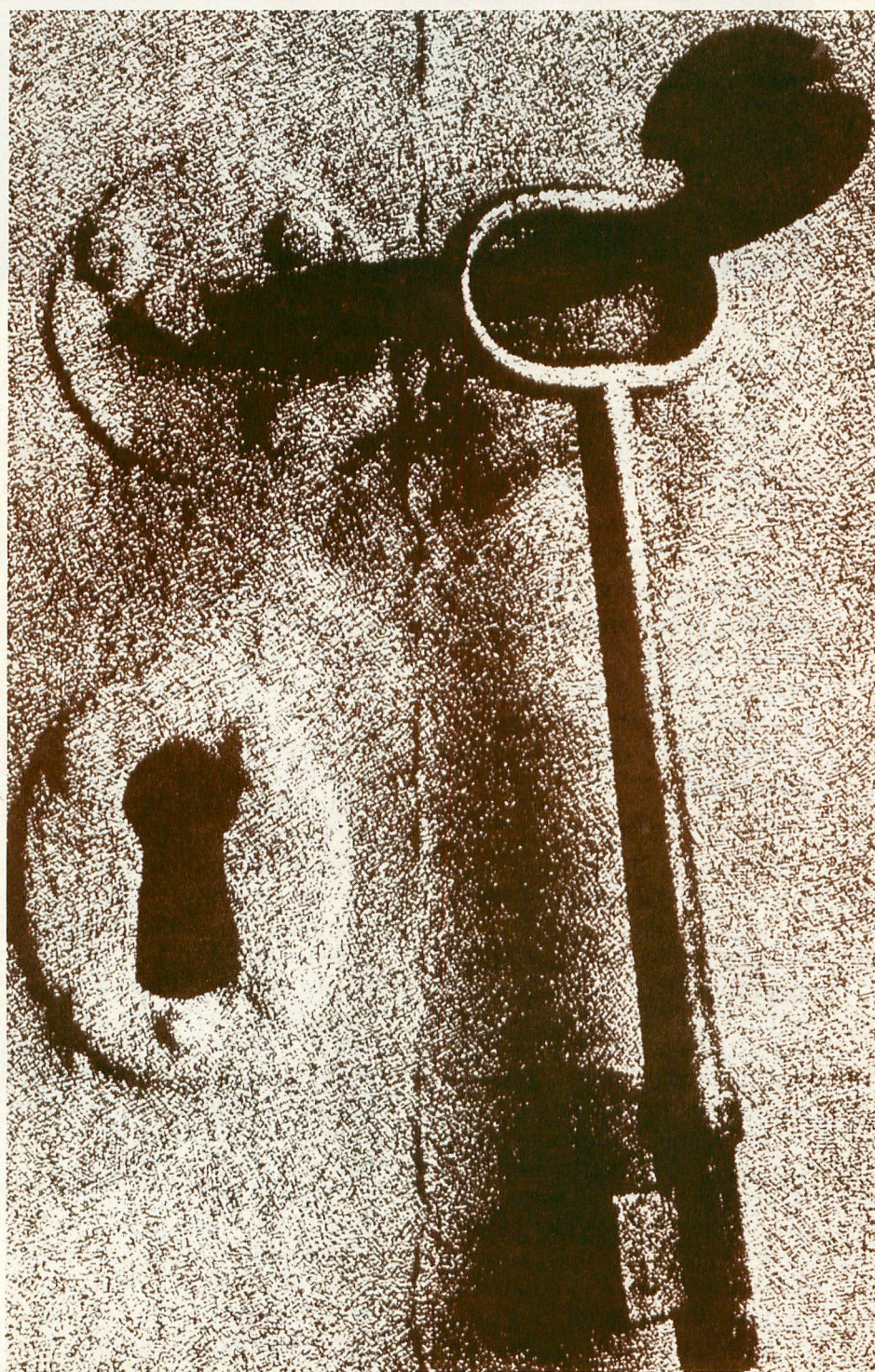


JULY-AUGUST 1997

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work around the world



RUSSIA

Who's
minding
the door?

RUSSIA

Who's minding the door?

by Jimmy Aldridge

Change! Change! Change! It is everywhere in Russia. And no one seems to know who is in charge.

A resurgent President Boris Yeltsin has just fired his defense minister and installed Chubais and Boris Nemtsov to lead Russia in economic reforms. They are confronting the three economic behemoths of Russia: Gazprom (gas), United Energy System (electricity), and the Railways Ministry.

An article in the April 28, 1997 edition of *Business Week* says, "Gazprom alone owes \$2.6 billion in taxes, more than enough to pay back wages to all the state doctors, teachers, and kindergarten workers in Russia."

Though formerly closed to foreign business, the once stagnant economy is now opening its doors to such commerce. At the same time, the Russian people who were once denied the free expression of faith now are opening the doors of their hearts to a new message of hope.

But the Orthodox Church is siding with nationalists' fears and are supporting laws which

would forbid foreign missionary activity from the West. Seventeen states (*oblasts*) have already passed these restrictive laws, even though the national constitution forbids such restrictions.

The Orthodox Church is siding with nationalists' fears and are supporting laws which would forbid foreign missionary activity from the West.

What does all this mean to American Free Will Baptists as we seek to help our sister Russian Baptist churches? Even though the Orthodox Church is beginning to actively oppose Protestantism, Baptist churches registered with the Russian government still have unprecedented freedom. Currently, they can invite foreigners to help them. So during this time of change—while no iron fist is blocking the way—we are able to enter in a partnership ministry.

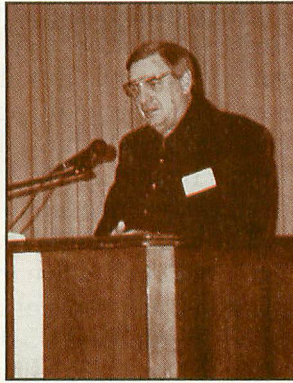
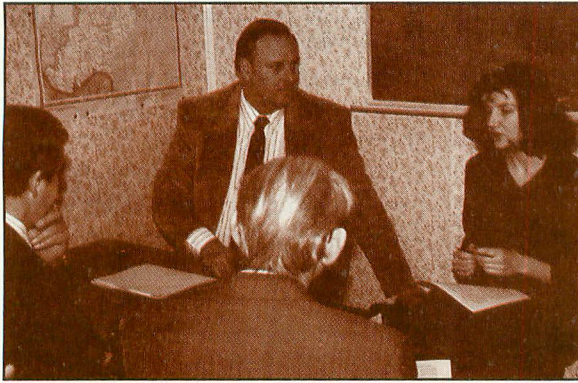
Seizing this opportunity, our

board has agreed to help our Russian family in several areas. We have sought ways to help train Russians in the Christian faith through seminary classes, seminars and literature. We have sponsored Thomas Marberry and Leroy Forlines to teach seminars on Arminian theology in Bible schools and seminaries in the Ukraine and Russia respectively. In addition, a Russian translation of Mr. Forlines' *Biblical Systematics* has been printed and is used as a textbook in these classes.

American Free Will Baptists are helping to train Russian pastors and church leaders in the Ural region by sponsoring seminars. The national leaders choose the subjects to be taught, and qualified persons are sent to do the job. So far, James Forlines, Jim Turnbough, Randy Wilson and I have taught pastors in Bible study methods, church organization, the Christian family, cults, youth ministry in the local church, spiritual warfare and discipleship of new converts.

In May 1997 Dr. Milburn Wilson taught a five-day, 45-hour seminar on pastoral





Participants of a pastoral counseling seminar stand (left), Dr. Thomas Marberry (above, left) teaches at a pastor's conference in Ukraine and Dr. Milburn Wilson (above, right) teaches pastoral counseling to Russian leaders.

counseling. The 46 pastors who attended were greatly blessed by the intense sessions. Some acclaimed it as the best training on biblical counseling they have ever received.

Other pastoral training seminars are in the works for the spring and fall; however, each session costs approximately \$6,000 or \$115 per person. We need Christians to pray that Russian pastors will not be hindered from receiving this needed training due to lack of funds.

Free Will Baptists in America are also aiding laborers in Russia by enabling the printing of Russian Christian literature. In 1991, when *perestroika* (restructuring) came, Russia was flooded with translated materials from the United States, Germany and Great Britain. This avalanche of literature was freely accepted because it came from outside the Russian borders. However, a spirit of nationalism has reemerged, causing a preference for Russian-printed materials.

For over 70 years Russian Baptists were forbidden access to the press. Very little Christian

literature was produced during that time, so the publishing of materials by the Russian Baptists is desperately needed. We have responded to this need by raising funds to buy a \$13,000 press; \$7,000 has already been given. Talented Christian writers are being sought to author tracts, discipleship materials and other "Sunday school" type publications.

American Free Will Baptists are helping to train Russian pastors and church leaders in the Ural region by sponsoring seminars.

Through our support of Russian missionaries, we are also helping to start new churches. Anatoly Cherkasov and his family have seen their new church in Ekaterinberg grow from nothing to over 100 believers in 15 months—45 of these converts have been baptized. This new body of believers meets for three hours each Sunday in a rented theater.

They have already started four Bible study groups and two other mission works in the city of 1.8 million people.

Although this Ekaterinberg church is experiencing abundant growth, it is also beginning to feel the opposition of the Orthodox Church. Recently the owner of the hall which housed one of the Bible studies was forced by a priest to "put out the Protestants." Consequently, the new church had to move this Bible study to another location.

The witnessing team from the United States started a new work in Kopeysk in June 1996. This church has stabilized with 31 believers attending regularly. A second baptism of 12 persons is being planned for July 1997. Sergey Krupoderov leads this group.

Since November 1996 a new church has been developing in the heart of Kurgan, a city of 500,000. Pastor Nikolai Novikov now has a congregation of more than 30 believers who meet in the city's public library building. Several of these new Christians are from Russia's "intelligentsia."

God has opened another

Continued on page 4 →

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Vol. 37, No. 4

July-August 1997

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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. Periodical postage paid at Antioch, Tenn. and additional offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **Heartbeat**, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, Tenn. 37011-5002.

→ Continued from page 3
unusual opportunity at
Kamyshlov, our newest work. A
young Russian preacher from
Ukraine, Sergei Miakshin,
moved there with his wife in
January 1997. During their
evangelistic crusade in March,
more than 50 people made
professions of faith.

These four works have
witnessed more than 300
conversions since January
1997! Free Will Baptists should
praise the Lord and pray for
those involved in the enormous
task of discipling these new
Christians.

Free Will Baptists are also
helping to reach three
unreached Eskimo-like people
groups in Northern Siberia. We
have targeted the city of Uria
with a population of 60,000
people and no known
evangelical church. This city is
accessible only by plane until
the river freezes and becomes a
highway.

I want to urge people to pray
for God to burden someone's
heart to minister in this rough
terrain. Pray also for at least
\$400 a month for this servant
and \$2,000 for the start-up
costs of an evangelistic
campaign, Bibles and literature
for the work in Uria.

We also need prayer as we
plan to send American Free Will
Baptists abroad as English
teachers. These will serve as

primary evangelists to the
Russian "intelligentsia." One
American family has already
received preliminary approval,
and we hope to have them in
Russia by mid-1998. More
teachers are needed.

This year TEAM (Teens
Equipped and Active in
Missions) will minister in
Chelyabinsk June 25-July 5.
They will teach Russian youth
workers how to use puppets in
child evangelism.

Four works have witnessed more than 300 conversions since January 1997!

And what do our Russian
brothers think of these minis-
tries to them? Nikolay Sobolev,
senior pastor in the Ural region,
writes, "Thank you. . . . Every
time you come we have God's
blessings and care Thank
you for Brother Wilson and for
good training!" He adds, "We
baptized 22 people first time.
This time I baptize 21 people.
Glory to God!"

We realize God opened the
door to this area of the world.
How long it will remain open no
one really knows. But while the
door is open to us, we will do
what we can to help.

What will you do?

Jimmy Aldridge is overseas secretary for Foreign
Missions.

Clip and mail

HELPING RUSSIA WHILE THE DOOR IS OPEN

I want to help Free Will Baptists make a difference in Russia. Enclosed is my gift for the
following ministry(ies):

- ☐ Bibles and literature ☐ A Russian missionary ☐ Printing press
☐ Training seminars ☐ Where needed Amount of check: \$ _____
☐ I will contribute \$ _____ monthly to the Russian ministry.

Name _____ Church _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Send to **FOREIGN MISSIONS**, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002

Last fall Mr. Hashikawa—who
lives in Tsubetsu, a small
town near Bihoro—came to a
Sunday service at the Bihoro
church. He introduced himself
at the end of the service when
they recognize first-time visitors.
Although he had wanted to
attend a Christian church for a
long time, circumstances had
hindered him from doing so. He
declared he was finally able to
attend and planned to continue.

Sure enough, he attended
faithfully every week and
showed genuine interest. We
had the feeling it wouldn't be
long before he would make a
decision for Christ.

Mrs. Aoki, the sister of one of
our members, had made a
profession of faith and was
wanting to be baptized on
Easter Sunday. About a month
or so before Easter Mr.
Hashikawa was asked if he
would like to be baptized also.
Without any hesitation he said
yes.

I met with Mrs. Aoki and Mr.
Hashikawa. After talking with
them, I had no doubt
concerning their salvation
experience. So they both were
scheduled to be baptized on
Easter.

Before being baptized, Mr.
Hashikawa gave a wonderful
testimony. His story is typical of
people in Japan who have
received a gospel witness years
before accepting Christ.

When Mr. Hashikawa was a
teenager, his older brother
asked him to accompany him to
the big city of Kitami. For a
country boy who had never
been to the city this was a big
event.

As he entered Kitami, he saw
many people. The main street
was huge compared to his little



The baptism of Mrs. Aoki (left) set the stage for the conversion and baptism of Mr. Hashikawa (right).



50 Years to become a Christian

by Fred Hersey

country town. Since World War II had not been over very long, much activity and many military vehicles were in Kitami.

A foreigner, probably a missionary or a serviceman, was giving away Bibles to anyone who wanted one. Mr. Hashikawa got a Bible and, after returning home, started reading from the book of John. That was his first time to see the name Jesus Christ. He was genuinely interested in Christianity, but no one was available to explain the Bible to him.

Over the next years Hashikawa entered the work force. Soon he became a husband and a father. He had to work to support his family and was left with little free time. For a while he was able to listen to the Lutheran Hour and did a correspondence course with them. He had a real desire to find a church so he might talk to

people about the Bible and the Christian life.

But only this past fall was he able to come to Bihoro to look for a church. He found the Bihoro Free Will Baptist Church and decided he would start attending regularly. He expressed gratitude for the Christians and missionaries who talked with him and answered many questions left unanswered for many years.

He was genuinely interested in Christianity, but no one was available to explain the Bible to him.

At last the aged gentleman understood the plan of salvation and was thankful for the plan God provided through his Son, Jesus Christ. He received Jesus as his Savior.

It was a real thrill for me to

baptize Brother Hashikawa. He was so happy after being baptized. Joy really flooded his soul. No one could doubt his salvation experience. He had such a sweet smile on his face.

This conversion was especially precious to me because Brother Hashikawa is 66 years of age. He and I were both born in 1930. His birthday is October 1; mine is in July. It took about 50 years for him to find Christ, but thanks be to God for this victory!

In 1958, after language school, I held services in Tsubetsu, Brother Hashikawa's hometown. My first convert in Japan, Noboru Hanzawa, is also from Tsubetsu. He also had come in contact with the gospel when he was a young man. God truly is patient and faithful.

Fred Hersey returned to the United States in June after concluding a 42-year ministry in Japan. He and his wife, June, plan to reside in southern Alabama and will continue to minister to U.S. churches through the remainder of the year.

They crowd the airports looking like rag-tag bands of anxious explorers unsure of their destination. It's usually easy to identify them. They're surrounded by heaps of luggage which include washing machine parts and endless bags of M & Ms. They're accompanied by a few "in charge" types who seem to know what's going on.

Part of the growing armies of North American Christians going to Burkina Faso and Botswana, to Latin America and Lithuania, to Azerbaijan and Zimbabwe, these travelers are short-term overseas witnesses. Made up of very young teens to "mature" adults, they are giving themselves to experience cross-cultural ministry firsthand.

Short-term missions is a contemporary reality. We must respond to it!

These Christians are going abroad for periods of two weeks to two years in length. They are attracted by scores of established mission agencies which provide well-packaged programs for professional and non-professional involvement. The programs are often called short-term missions. Brochures offer opportunities for everything from "Lay a brick and get dirty for God" to "Use your professional medical or teaching skills to impact the 10/40 window."

A few of these travelers may be no more than glorified vacationers to exotic destinations. Pity the poor missionary who has to deal with such non-committed people and their personal expectations. But most are part of legitimate



Master's Men builders (above) help on construction in Cuba.

A TEAM Brazil group (below) participates in a street meeting.



Short-term Missions— Long-term Benefits

by Eddie Payne

efforts to expose American Christians to the realities and challenges of today's mission fields while giving them the opportunity to see the sights, hear the sounds and smell the aromas.

The debate is never ending as to the value of these junkets. Some contend that the millions of dollars spent on these efforts could be better invested in career missionaries and their long-term ministries. Others argue the benefit and value for today's youth to experience the "real mission field" in order to better evaluate their long-term commitment to serving God overseas. Whatever one's perspective may be, short-term missions is a contemporary reality. We must respond to it!

TEENS may become a part of TEAM (Teens Equipped and Active in Missions), an exciting program designed just for them.

I personally feel we Free Will Baptists should explore ways to effectively employ this popular mission movement to recruit, enlist and train a new generation of missionary world-changers. Our young people are going to be increasingly involved in short-term, cross-cultural ministry experiences. Are we going to provide them valid opportunities, or will we sit back and force them to seek these experiences through other agencies? I believe we should provide the opportunity through our Free Will Baptist family. And we can!

Actually, Free Will Baptists are already involved in this kind

of missions effort. For decades we have employed the concepts. Just take a look at what Free Will Baptists offer.

TEENS may become a part of TEAM (Teens Equipped and Active in Missions), an exciting program designed just for them. Members of TEAM are selected during the year prior to the overseas assignment. An intensive week of equipping and blending the abilities and talents of the group prior to departure has made TEAM an effective program. Scores of young people have participated in this program in Brazil, France, Uruguay, Panama, Ivory Coast, Mexico and Japan. This summer Russia was added to the list.

Only time will reveal the decisions teens made to pursue God's will in full-time service and the outcome of those decisions. One Arkansas young lady carried a burden back to her home state. This grew into the Norman Invasion project and probably helped encourage the development of the Acts 1:8 support program of Arkansas.

COLLEGE AGE PROGRAMS have been around for over 30 years. Formerly called the Summer Missions program and now known as the Overseas Apprentice program, this arena has provided everything from six-week to two-year programs. By invitation of field missionaries, students have been involved in innumerable activities: teaching missionary children, preparing and distributing literature in the local languages, construction and related projects, youth camps, Bible schools, youth center work, etc. Some have participated in drama, evangelistic film showing,

literacy classes, sports activities and mechanical work. Others have studied in an on-field university while doing student ministry.

"GO and BE" provides on-field training and ministry for which college credit is offered.

A more structured program launched in 1993 called "GO and BE" was developed by Ivory Coast missionaries. With the cooperation of Free Will Baptist Bible College the program provides on-field training and ministry for which college credit is offered. An entire year of stateside preparation leads to the six- to ten-week field experience. The field staff provides classroom teaching as well as excursions for research. The participants become serious students of the language, culture and religion of the people. Weekends are given to ministry alongside their Ivorian brothers and sisters in churches and missions. Three Go and Be teams have gone to date.

EXCITING NEW OPENINGS have appeared in what were considered closed countries. Especially of note are the teaching opportunities in places like China, Mongolia, Vietnam and the former Soviet Union. Anyone with a B.A. degree is eligible to be considered by ELIC (English Language Institute/China) as an English teacher. Free Will Baptist Bible College now has an agreement with ELIC to send student teachers for summer programs in China. This is an opportunity for Christians to share their lives

Continued on page 8 ➔

→Continued from page 7
and faith in areas previously
closed to Christians from the
West.

SHORT-TERM IS NOT JUST FOR YOUNG PEOPLE. Over 30 years ago a 55-year-old pastor/carpenter from Oklahoma built a hospital, dormitory, and several houses in Ivory Coast. Dozens of teams have participated in construction, medical outreach and scores of other projects, and many of these helpers were "mature" adults. They are now committed missionary supporters, promoters and mobilizers.

Ask the Lloyd Plunketts about their experience as dorm parents at Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire. Call Leroy and Fay Forlines and find out about their teaching experience across Russia. Check with Dr. Thomas Marberry, who went to Ukraine, or with Dr. Milburn Wilson, who taught counseling in Russia. I'm sure they have stories to tell! And it all is part of short-term missions.

Perhaps our readers should ask themselves a question: **IS SHORT-TERM MISSIONS IN MY FUTURE?**

It can be! Move out of the ordinary and explore how you and your church might participate in this exciting movement.

Short-term missions may be the best long-term investment an individual or church can make for advancing the Kingdom of God. The rewards are long term and out of this world!

Eddie Payne is a former missionary to Côte d'Ivoire and a former professor of missions at FWB Bible College. He currently serves as missionary support coordinator and communications assistant for Foreign Missions.

TEAM

An Opportunity to Grow

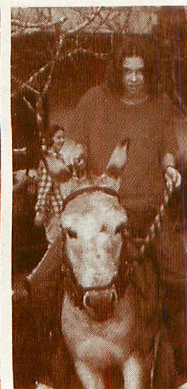
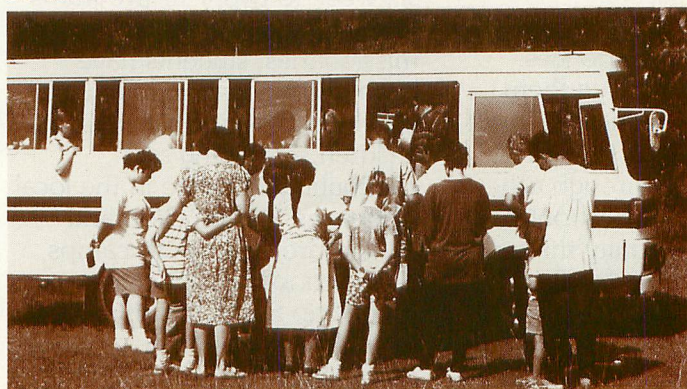
by Kimberlee Scott

When I think about my time with TEAM* Brazil last summer, I smile in wonder at all the various ingredients God graciously packaged together to impact my life during those four weeks. It was a time of unforgettable fellowship, learning, and most of all, growing.

I knew only one of the team members before I arrived in Nashville for orientation week. I

was amazed at how quickly we all bonded; after two or three days, I honestly felt like part of a new family.

God blessed each of us overwhelmingly during that first week at Free Will Baptist Bible College. The team unity that developed there enhanced our ministry more than anything else. I was challenged as I considered all that could be accomplished for Christ if all



His children would lay aside petty differences and unite to carry out His mission!

While we were in Brazil, we had the privilege of staying in the Brazilians' homes most of the time. This was quite an experience in itself because many of them spoke very little English. During my stay at one of the homes, God spoke clearly to my heart, bringing about a wonderful change in my outlook on life.

One of the other girls and I were staying with a lady and her family in Ribeirão Preto. The family was poor, so they didn't have hot water. One thing I absolutely detested before I went to Brazil was a cold shower. We had to take showers after the long bus ride to Ribeirão, so there I was, standing on ice-cold tile, shivering under ice-cold water, paralyzed. As I stood there, I began to think to myself, "These people never had hot showers. Who am I to deserve a hot shower?" I was ashamed as I realized how much I had taken for granted back home in my luxurious America. It was then I noticed that the water didn't seem quite so cold anymore.

When I walked back into the bedroom the family had offered us for the night, Bridget, the other girl from the team, was reading her Bible. "Listen to this," she said, and she started reading the passage in Ephesians 6 about the armor of God. I was familiar with the passage, but as she read, a verse stood out that I had never noticed before: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against

spiritual wickedness in high places."

I thought about the precious people who had offered us their home and their cold shower, about all the Brazilians we had seen in the churches there, and even about people back home in all their luxury. Flesh and blood. A new door opened inside me, and I felt a genuine compassion for people in general—a compassion which I knew was not my own, but from God.

During those four wonderful weeks I grew spiritually, more than I ever would have thought possible.

Several instances since then have turned me back to that verse, enabling me to approach people and certain unpleasant situations with more of a loving and compassionate outlook.

What impacted me the most was knowing that the same precious Holy Spirit that lives in me was at work in Brazilian hearts. I knew that, as a Christian, I had a bond with Christians all over the world. Nothing, however, could have brought me face to face with

that awareness like actually being there and worshipping with people so very different from me. I know that through Him, they are a part of my spiritual family.

TEAM was an exhilarating experience because God's heart was proven to me—I could see how very important missions was to Him and, therefore, how important it must be to all His children. With that realization I felt closer than ever to God and more encouraged than I'd ever been to take an active part in God's global work.

I'm sure many things happened in Brazil that changed my life without my even realizing. During those four wonderful weeks I grew spiritually, more than I ever would have thought possible in that short length of time. I'll be eternally grateful to God for the beautiful opportunity He gave me that summer.

My prayer is that through hearing about my experiences, people will realize their individual roles and their obligation to fulfill those roles in God's glorious plan for His Truth to be proclaimed around the world.

Kimberlee Scott of Johnsonville, S.C., served as a member of TEAM Brazil '96. She is a student at FWB Bible College in Nashville. *TEAM is an acronym for Teens Equipped and Active in Missions.



Clip and mail

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION

TEAM MINISTRY

Name _____ () M () F

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Date of birth _____

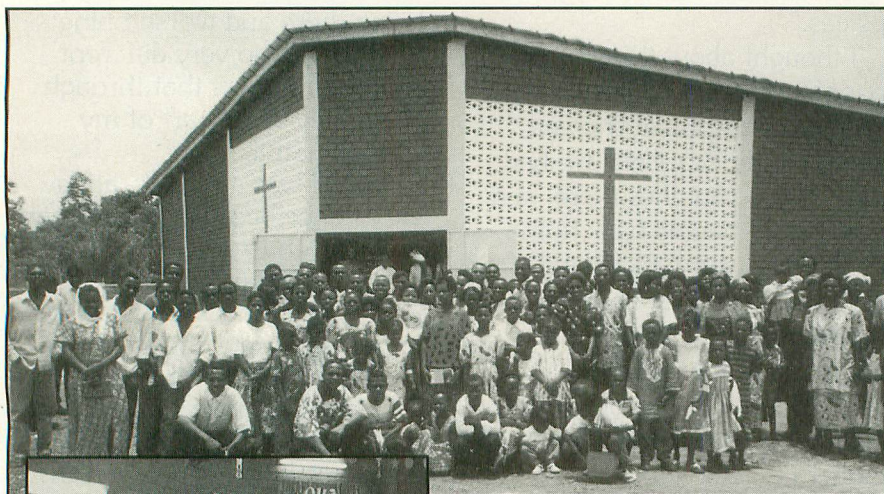
Last grade completed _____ Home church _____

Pastor's name _____ Phone (____) _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____

Send request to: **TEAM, Foreign Missions**, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002

News Update



The crowd which attended the dedication of the new church at Agnibilekrou gathers in front of the building (above). Norman Richards (below, right) prays the dedication prayer.

Three Students Serve as Overseas Apprentices

Antioch, Tenn.—Three students are serving as overseas apprentices (formerly called "student missionaries") this summer: Rachel Callaway of Knightdale, N.C., is serving with the churches in Spain. Traci Clinger of Wheelersburg, Oh., is serving with Alice Smith in Côte d'Ivoire. Brian Cooksey of Seffner, Fla., is serving in Panama with Steve and Judy Lytle.

Agnibilekrou Building Dedicated on April 12

Côte d'Ivoire—Former missionaries Norman and Bessie Richards traveled to Côte d'Ivoire in April to participate in the April 12 dedication of the new building at Agnibilekrou where they had labored for many years until health required their resignation.

"It was a precious two weeks and time of thanksgiving for all God is doing there," writes Bessie Richards. "The highlight of our visit was the

dedication of the new church building."

Norman brought the main message for the service which had approximately 350 attending. Several missionaries and other national leaders were on hand for the dedication. Local government officials also attended.

Much of the money for the new building was raised by Arkansas youth during the "Norman Invasion" effort of 1993-94. Although Norman was responsible for getting the property for the new building, he was unable to remain on the field to oversee the construction. Missionary Darrel Nichols followed through on construction.

Operation Mobilization Evangelizes in France

France—Missionaries in St. Sebastian, France, cooperated with a group from Operation Mobilization during March. Dennis Teague helped to organize the effort and Carol Teague and Cathy Crawford cooked for the group which conducted open-air evangelism.

Twenty newcomers were among the 102 people present at a special concert performed by Operation Mobilization.

Medical Center Loses in Court and Pays \$1,000

Côte d'Ivoire—According to a newsletter from Dr. Kenneth Eagleton in Doropo, Côte d'Ivoire, the recent court case involving a lawsuit by a former employee was decided in

favor of the plaintiff. Although he was asking the equivalent of \$20,000, the court granted only \$1,000.

Kenneth said the decision has been appealed because of irregular court procedures in the case. He urged people to pray that the case will get thrown out of court.

"We just had to dismiss another employee for lying on several occasions, trafficking in medicines and possibly stealing medicine from the hospital," says Eagleton. This man and the one who brought the lawsuit had been esteemed as good Christian men who warranted the confidence of the hospital staff.

Kenneth urged people to pray for revival and for souls to be saved.

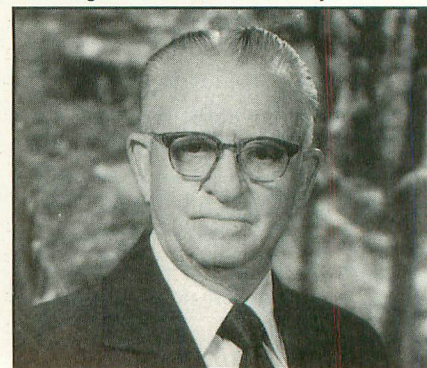
Winford Davis, Former Treasurer, Dies at 93

Monett, Mo.—Winford C. Davis, the first secretary-treasurer for Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions, died at the age of 93 in Monett, Mo., on May 5, 1997. Davis had been a Free Will Baptist preacher for more than 70 years and filled an active leadership role in the denomination for most of his life.

When the foreign missions program was launched in 1935, the entire operation was handled from Winford's home. The first full-time director of Foreign Missions was Raymond Riggs, who filled that post in 1950.

Funeral services for Mr. Davis were conducted on May 8, 1997, at the Monett-Wormington Funeral Chapel in Monett. The services were conducted by Lee Neill, pastor of Macedonia, and Ted Davis, a nephew.

Winford Davis, the first secretary-treasurer of Foreign Missions, died on May 5.



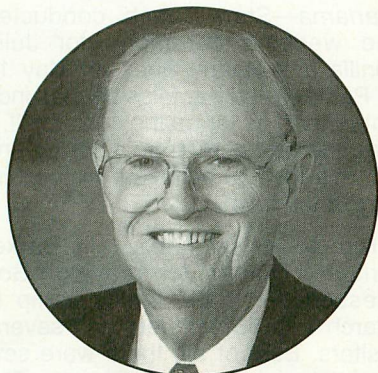
Student Teaches FWB Doctrine in N. India

India—A Bible college student from South India, Stanley—son of pastor David RajKumar—has been teaching Free Will Baptist doctrine to the evangelists and other North Indian workers during the month of May.

According to Carlisle Hanna, small groups meet from Monday morning until Saturday afternoon. They return to their congregations for services on Sunday.



Ken Eagleton (left) teaches six of the nine students enrolled in a Bible institute class at the church in Barbacena, Brazil.



Dr. Robertson McQuilkin, former president of Columbia International University, will speak at the foreign missions retreat.

McQuilkin to Speak at Annual FM Retreat

Nashville, Tenn.—Dr. Robertson McQuilkin, former president of Columbia International University (formerly Columbia Bible College and Seminary) is scheduled to speak at the annual foreign missions retreat to be held at Free Will Baptist Bible College August 11-14. Dr. McQuilkin will be speaking on Monday night, Tuesday morning and Wednesday morning.

Dr. McQuilkin served for 22 years as president of Columbia. Prior to assuming the position as president, McQuilkin was a church-planting missionary in Japan for 12 years. He has authored four books and has contributed to many others. The college president resigned his position at Columbia in 1990 to care for his wife, Muriel, who had reached a stage of Alzheimer's disease which called for full-time care.

The retreat sessions at night are open to the public; however, daytime sessions are limited to missions and college personnel. Tuesday and Wednesday evening will feature field reports of missionaries.

Eagletons Conclude Third Bible Institute Session

Brazil—Veteran missionaries Ken and Marvis Eagleton just completed their third consecutive year of ministering in the Free Will Baptist church in Barbacena, Brazil, where Bobby and Sue Aycock are laboring. Ken taught four nights weekly from March 4 through April 25.

The program included "Themes in Old Testament Theology" and "The General Epistles." Out of nine students, eight are preparing for either a pastoral ministry or evangelism/missionary work. The other student is preparing for a Sunday school teaching ministry.

The Eagletons returned to the United States on April 28.

12 Students Take Part in Go and Be Group

Antioch, Tenn.—Twelve students from Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., left the United States on May 22 to begin several weeks of special studies, service and cross-cultural training as part of the Go and Be program.

Those participating in the group include Allysa Hampton, Aaron Baker, and Joe and Carla Picklesimer of Nashville; Kristy Douglas of St. Anne, Ill.; Deanna Nicholson of Ashland City, Tenn.; Heather Rock of Flint, Mich.; Charae Jones of Florence, Ala.; Elizabeth Rasar and K. C. Kohn of Decatur, Ill.; Wendy Skelly of Oakley, Ill. and Matthew Price of Belmont, N.C.

The Go and Be team studies under Clint Morgan and Mike Cousineau at the Bible institute in Bouna. They also do practical physical tasks

to help in the institute program. Some receive college credit for their work and study.

The group is scheduled to return to the United States on July 3.

Two Churches in Japan Gain Japanese Leaders

Japan—The Koinonia Free Will Baptist Church and the Kita Hiroshima Church in northern Japan recently engaged two Japanese preachers to assume some of the responsibilities of the ministry.

Keiichi Kimura finished his training and started as pastor of the Kita Hiroshima church in April. Pastor Kimura attended Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College before returning to Japan to finish his training in a Japanese seminary.

Yoskikazu Ishii graduated from Bible school last year and has agreed to work with the Koinonia Church along with missionary Dale Bishop. According to Dale, Yoskikazu will take over some of the responsibilities and free him and Sandra to work with some of the other churches who are presently without pastors.

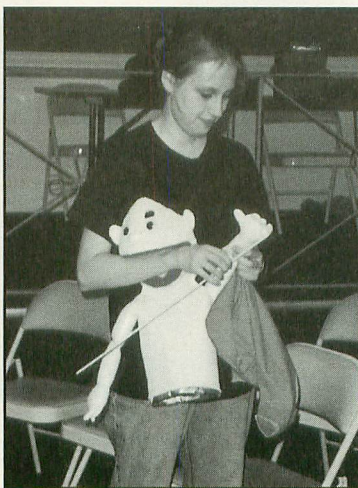
ELIC Teachers to Be in USA This Summer

Antioch, Tenn.—Several Free Will Baptist teachers who work under English Language Institute/China (ELIC) are to be in the United States this summer.

Terry and Janelda Walker are home from Mongolia; Mark King, Monica White, Sarah Malone and Paul and Tanya Dean are home

Continued on page 12 →

News Update



Members and sponsors of TEAM '97 (above, left) go through training at Free Will Baptist Bible College prior to their trip abroad. TEAM '97 member, Amy Pate (above, right) prepares a puppet for the Russian ministry.

—> Continued from page 11 from China.

Miss Malone and the Deans will be in the States through the next school year and plan to return to China in the fall of 1998.

Monica White will return to China on August 26, Mark King returns at the end of August, and the Walkers plan to return to Mongolia on August 8.

Dr. Marberry Teaches FWB Doctrine in Ukraine

Ukraine—On April 7, 1997, Dr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Marberry returned from a two-week teaching mission in Ukraine. Ukrainian Baptists had invited Dr. Marberry to lecture in two pastor's conferences and preach in several churches. In the pastor's conferences he taught on the differences between Calvinism and Arminianism, Mormonism and Jehovah's Witnesses.

Baptists in Ukraine are Arminian in doctrine and wish to remain so. Several pastors expressed appreciation for a teacher from the United States who defends the Arminian approach.

According to Dr. Marberry, "There is a great openness to the gospel in Ukraine. People are being saved on a regular basis; many new churches are being started."

Dr. Marberry noted that Free Will Baptists in the United States can assist Christians in Ukraine who have little or no formal training by sending teachers.

18 Travel with TEAM '97 in Russia or Panama

Antioch, Tenn.—TEAM '97 (Teens Equipped and Active in Missions) involves 18 teenagers from around the country who are ministering in Panama or Russia this summer. Each team has nine teenagers in addition to the sponsors.

Teenagers going to Panama include April Ball of Afton, Tenn.; Donnie Barter of Fort Smith, Ark.; Misty Mathis of Hemingway, S.C.; B. J. Clark of Pikeville, N.C.; Bethany Holstein of Johnstown, Oh.; Neil Morgan of Pamplico, S.C.; Bridgett Nichols of Ozark, Ark.; Tracy Starick of Johnston City, Ill. and Leigh Ann Zegelian of Jacksonville, N.C.

Traveling with TEAM Panama '97 are Glenn and Janet McReynolds of Clarksville, Tenn.

Going with TEAM Russia '97 are Daniel Larson and Amy Pate of Nashville, Tenn.; Darcie Jo Gordon of Meeker, Okla.; Robert Morgan of Ashland City, Tenn.; Joy Oakes of Knoxville, Tenn.; Nicole Platt of Batesville, Ark.; Bethany Ryan of Portland, Tenn.; Heather Smith of Decatur, Ill. and Chris Wilson of Louisa, Ky.

Traveling with the group to Russia and acting as sponsors are Ken Eagleton and Terry and Jamie Eagleton of Nashville. The team is teaching Russians how to do puppet evangelism.

Both teams left Nashville on June 23 and are scheduled to return on July 10.

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Nashville, Tenn.—Two Nashville women will be spending this summer teaching English in China under the auspices of English Language Institute/China (ELIC). Miss Heather Hasty will spend seven weeks in Changsha, China, a city of 2.6 million people. Miss Darla Kirby will teach in Chengdu, China, home of the world's largest panda reservation.

Panama—Stan Bunch conducted the wedding ceremony for Julia Pinilla and Rafael Saez on May 10 in Parita, Panama. Missionaries indicated that, as far as they could tell, it was the first ceremony done by and for evangelical believers in the history of the town.

Uruguay—Missionary Molly Barker writes: "Thanks for praying! God blessed our 'mini' family camp in March with 85 campers and several visitors. Best of all, there were several decisions for Christ. The weather was perfect, and on Good Friday God sent just enough wind for the campers to fly their kites."

Japan—Ken and Judy Bailey reported that their son-in-law (married Tracy Bailey in March) Jeremy Delamarter has been diagnosed as having Hodgkin's lymphoma. This cancer reoccurred after being in remission for five years. A bone scan taken in mid-June showed that the cancer had not spread to the bone.

Brazil—The church at Belo Horizonte, Brazil, had a special welcome service for Jim and Vicki Sturgill on Sunday evening, May 25. According to Dave Franks, they had a record attendance of 82 people. Two people were saved during the service.

Hollywood, Fla.—Missionary appointee Anthony Edgmon underwent surgery on Friday, May 23, to repair bone damage in his wrist. The wrist was broken some months earlier and had never healed properly. Latest reports indicate surgery was successful and the wrist is continuing to heal.

Nashville, Tenn.—R. Eugene Waddell, general director of Foreign Missions, underwent surgery for prostate cancer on June 4 in Nash-

ville. Doctors indicated the cancer was localized, and Mr. Waddell has resumed his normal activities.

Japan—Benjamin Bailey, son of Ken and Judy Bailey in Japan, was selected for a summer missions trip with an evangelical group known as the High School Born-Againers. The group traveled across Japan during June witnessing to high school students.

India—According to missionary Carlisle Hanna, the building of Hope Free Will Baptist Church in North India was dedicated on May 6, and another new church building was expected to be dedicated soon.

Brazil—Bobby and Sue Aycock in Barbacena, Brazil, reported the salvation of a young lady on Sunday, May 18. According to Bobby, the young people from the church led her to the Lord in her home, and she made her public profession of faith on Sunday evening.

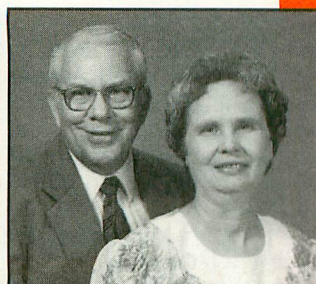
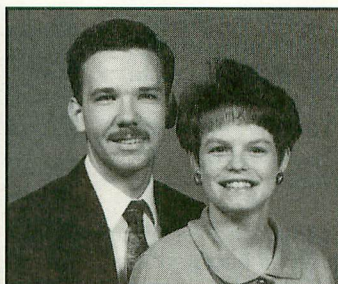
Antioch, Tenn.—MKs Matthew Turnbough and Stephanie McVay of Spain and Jonathan Owen of Uruguay graduated from high school in June. Matthew graduated from Evangelical Christian Academy in Madrid, Spain; Jonathan from Mt. Vernon Township High School in Mt. Vernon, Ill. and Stephanie from Hume Fogg Academic High School in Nashville, Tenn.

Côte d'Ivoire—Adam Morgan, son of missionaries Clint and Lynette Morgan in Côte d'Ivoire, has been appointed as an overseas assistant for one year to work in maintenance at the Bible institute in Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire.

Panama—Steve and Judy Lytle reported 16 people baptized in Panama in May—seven at Las Tablas and nine at San Vicente.

Costa Rica—Brianna Nicole Bowerman was born on April 2 in San Jose, Costa Rica, to missionaries Eddie and LaRhonda Bowerman. Brianna weighed seven pounds, 11 ounces and measured 20 inches in length. The Bowermans have another daughter, Alyssa, born in September of 1995.

Nashville, Tenn.—Miranda Owen, daughter of Dennis and Trena Owen, had surgery on June 19 in



These missionaries have gone or are soon to depart for their fields of service: (top, left to right) Paul and Tammy Gentuso, Nathan and Linda Snow, Jim and Vicki Sturgill, (bottom) Ernest and Elaine Holland, Curt and Mary Holland and Traci Epps.

Nashville to correct a problem with her jaw alignment.

China—On Easter Sunday approximately 20 people gathered from outside the city of Beijing for lunch and a time of fellowship. According to Sarah Malone, it opened the way to discussions on the meaning of life.

Five Couples, One Single Depart for Their Fields

Antioch, Tenn.—Five missionary couples and one single missionary either have recently departed for their fields or are scheduled to depart in July or August.

Jim and Vicki Sturgill returned to Belo Horizonte, Brazil, on May 23 to

assume responsibility for the church as Dave and Pat Franks prepared to leave for their stateside assignment.

Ernest and Elaine Holland returned to Côte d'Ivoire on May 28 to resume their ministry with youth in Bondoukou.

Curt and Mary Holland and their family returned to Brazil on June 30. Their place of ministry had not been confirmed at the time of this report.

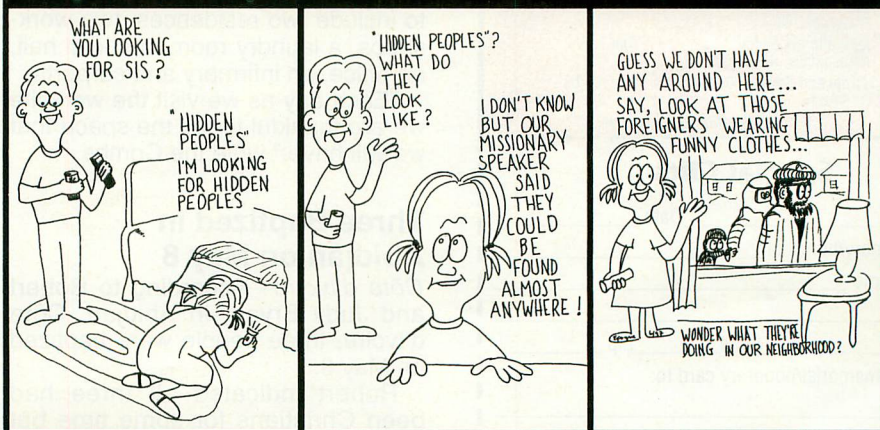
New appointees Sam and June McVay are scheduled to depart for Spain on July 7 to join Jeff and Susan Turnbough in a suburb of Madrid.

Miss Traci Epps is scheduled to depart on August 6 to begin her min-

Continued on page 14 ➔

Payne's People

By Eddie Payne



News Update

—Continued from page 13

istry of teaching at International Christian Academy in Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire.

Dr. Paul and Tammy Gentuso plan to return to the medical center in Doropo, Côte d'Ivoire, on August 9.

Missionaries Dennis and Trena Owen were tentatively scheduled to return to Uruguay in June but have been delayed due to lack of sufficient financial support.

Six Couples and One Single Missionary Arrive

Antioch, Tenn.—Six missionary couples and one single missionary either have arrived or are soon scheduled to arrive in the United States to begin their stateside assignments.

Steve Riggs arrived from France on April 29 and returned to France near the end of June to accompany his family to the States early in July. They are to be on stateside assignment until November.

Jerry and Carol Pinkerton arrived on May 17 from Côte d'Ivoire and plan to return to Africa in December or January.

Miss Lynn Midgett arrived from Spain on June 7 for a short stateside assignment.

Fred and June Hersey arrived



General Director R. Eugene Waddell (left) presents a plaque to Robert Morgan, pastor of the Donelson FWB Church, in honor of the church's number one status in giving.

from Japan on June 14. Fred concluded 42 years of ministry in Japan and will be visiting churches in the United States until the end of the year.

Dave Sr. and Pat Franks arrived in the United States on June 19 from Brazil to begin their stateside assignment.

Carlisle and Marie Hanna are scheduled to arrive in the States on July 15 for a short stateside ministry before returning to India.

had never made the public statement of baptism.

The Bryans also reported that Josephine Krah, a first-time visitor at the new work in Abidjan on June 1, indicated she was making a commitment to Christ. She wrote on the visitors card, "Today I have decided to follow Jesus."

Five New Missionaries Attend MTI Program

Colorado Springs, Colo.—New missionaries Sam and June McVay, Nathan and Linda Snow, and Ginger Harrison attended the "Splice" program of Mission Training International in Colorado Springs, Colo., held June 9-27.

This program is designed to help new missionaries function more efficiently, cooperatively and peacefully in cross-cultural ministry.

Waddell Presents Plaque to Donelson FWB Church

Nashville, Tenn.—R. Eugene Waddell, general director of Foreign Missions, visited the Donelson Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tenn., on Foreign Missions Sunday, April 27.

Mr. Waddell congratulated the church and presented a plaque to Robert Morgan, the pastor, in honor of the church's number one status in foreign missions giving in 1996. He

Special Gifts

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

Donor	In Memory of
Northeast Missouri Assn. Milan, MO	Gladys Cooper
First District WNAC Hutchison, KS	Laura Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Johnson Knightdale, NC	Myrtie Turner Lee
John and Iris Eaddy Johnsenville, SC	Dan Eaddy
Harold and Betty Jo Goode Vernon, AL	Roy Ashby

Clip and Mail Coupon

Special Gifts

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Given in memory/honor of _____

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Please send memorial/honorary card to:

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Construction Proceeds at Children's Home

Brazil—According to an April report from Jim and Shirley Combs in Araras, Brazil, the two houses being constructed for the New Life Children's Home were ready to be roofed. The entire building project is to include two residences, two workshops, a laundry room, a social hall, an office, an infirmary and carpports.

"Each day as we visit the worksite we are thankful for all the space that we will have," write the Combs.

Three Baptized in Abidjan on May 8

Côte d'Ivoire—According to Robert and Judy Bryan, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, three people were baptized on May 8.

Robert indicated all three had been Christians for some time but

also gave the pastor a gift and gave some books to the church library.

Donelson, which gave a total of \$66,228.68 in 1996, has consistently been among the top contributors to foreign missions among Free Will Baptists.

Tippetts Chapel Raises \$18,600 for Callaways

Clayton, N.C.—Tippetts Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Clayton, N.C., celebrated its annual "Callaway Day" on June 8 with a special missions offering. The church had set a goal of \$5,000 to help Ron and Linda Callaway get to Panama on schedule. During the special dinner at the church, pastor David Trogdon announced that the church had passed its goal and that the amount given was over \$18,600.

According to the Callaways, "The church was filled with joy and praise to the Lord for His moving upon His people."

Tippetts Chapel was among the top 10 Free Will Baptist Churches of North Carolina in giving to foreign missions in 1996.

Marvis Eagleton Helps Organize Teaching Aids

Brazil—Missionary Marvis Eagleton—who accompanied her husband, Ken, to Brazil in March for a special teaching assignment—stepped in to help Sue Aycock organize a large number of flannelgraph stories.

According to Ken, Marvis patiently sorted through hundreds of figures in an attempt to reunite stories with their correct characters, etc. Once they were sorted, she labeled and packaged the stories in order.

Marvis Eagleton sorts flannelgraph materials in Barbacena, Brazil.



Financial Summary

Through May 1997

\$ubstance

Total income for April 1997	\$ 406,299.91
Total income for May 1997	413,637.32
Total income through May 1997	1,734,642.79
Projected income through May 1997	2,064,567.36
Total expenses through May 1997	1,876,591.40
Total 1997 Budget (including VISION projects)	\$4,954,961.67

\$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Crosby.....	\$ 4,696.80	Robinson.....	\$ 4,638.54
Eagleton Sr.....	9,652.13	Russian Pastor's Conf.....	1,909.40
Ekaterinburg Missionary CIS.....	8,559.37	Tallent.....	4,234.50
Franks Sr.....	6,583.73	Teague.....	5,238.35
Hersey.....	7,978.46	Wiley.....	9,448.25
Kamyshlov Missionary CIS.....	2,151.45	Wilson.....	723.35
Kopeysk Missionary CIS.....	2,694.98	Special Committee.....	18,882.34
Kurgan Missionary CIS.....	1,986.52	General Fund.....	80,549.82
McFall.....	766.40	Info Promo Fund.....	31,961.79
Noyabrisk Missionary CIS.....	873.95	International Consultation.....	3,954.40
Owen.....	9,739.28	Third World Development.....	2,031.53
Total.....			\$219,255.34

\$inking

The following accounts are in the black but in serious need:

Combs.....	\$ 903.55	Midgett.....	\$ 54.73
Hanna.....	1,507.54	Poole.....	975.36

State Goals—1997

States/ Organizations	Goal 1997	Goal Through May	Contributions Through May
Alabama.....	\$ 195,000.00	\$ 81,250.00	\$ 85,306.38
Arkansas.....	300,000.00	125,000.00	120,005.24
Arizona.....	6,500.00	2,708.33	2,750.90
California.....	83,000.00	34,583.33	26,766.50
Canada.....	10,000.00	4,166.67	3,604.86
Colorado.....	8,000.00	3,333.33	4,840.74
Florida.....	85,000.00	35,416.67	33,207.39
Georgia.....	200,000.00	83,333.33	84,060.61
Idaho.....	1,000.00	416.67	1,446.79
Iowa.....	3,000.00	1,250.00	831.10
Illinois.....	150,000.00	62,500.00	53,173.06
Indiana.....	40,000.00	16,666.67	15,946.76
Hawaii.....	1,000.00	416.67	-
Kansas.....	9,000.00	3,750.00	3,145.40
Kentucky.....	80,000.00	33,333.33	30,317.30
Louisiana.....	2,000.00	833.33	900.00
Maryland.....	29,000.00	12,083.33	18,073.36
Michigan.....	200,000.00	83,333.33	41,363.97
Missouri.....	325,000.00	135,416.67	140,642.81
Mississippi.....	75,000.00	31,250.00	24,692.69
Montana.....	2,500.00	1,041.67	875.00
North Carolina.....	570,000.00	237,500.00	254,611.38
Nebraska.....	1,000.00	416.67	471.00
New Mexico.....	2,000.00	833.33	1,183.74
*Northeast Association.....	2,400.00	1,000.00	734.00
**Northwest Association.....	10,000.00	4,166.67	2,810.04
Ohio.....	135,000.00	56,250.00	56,335.41
Oklahoma.....	420,000.00	175,000.00	164,209.52
Pennsylvania.....	1,000.00	416.67	100.50
South Carolina.....	255,000.00	106,250.00	108,392.36
Tennessee.....	715,000.00	297,916.67	264,695.39
Texas.....	100,000.00	41,666.67	24,898.81
Virginia.....	110,000.00	45,833.33	38,832.04
Virgin Islands.....	3,000.00	1,250.00	1,686.13
West Virginia.....	110,000.00	45,833.33	41,387.36
Free Will Baptist Foundation.....	23,000.00	9,583.33	-
Miscellaneous.....	19,365.88	8,069.12	13,194.60
WNAC.....	170,000.00	70,833.33	61,614.94
Totals.....	\$4,451,765.88	\$1,854,902.45	\$1,727,108.00

* Northeast Association

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

** Northwest Association

Alaska, Oregon and Washington

*** Does not include VISION projects.

HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

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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.

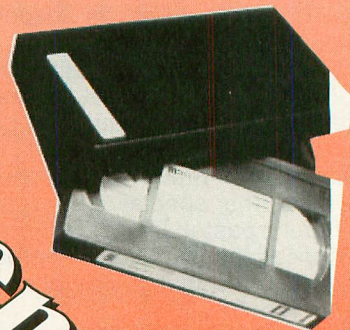
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