

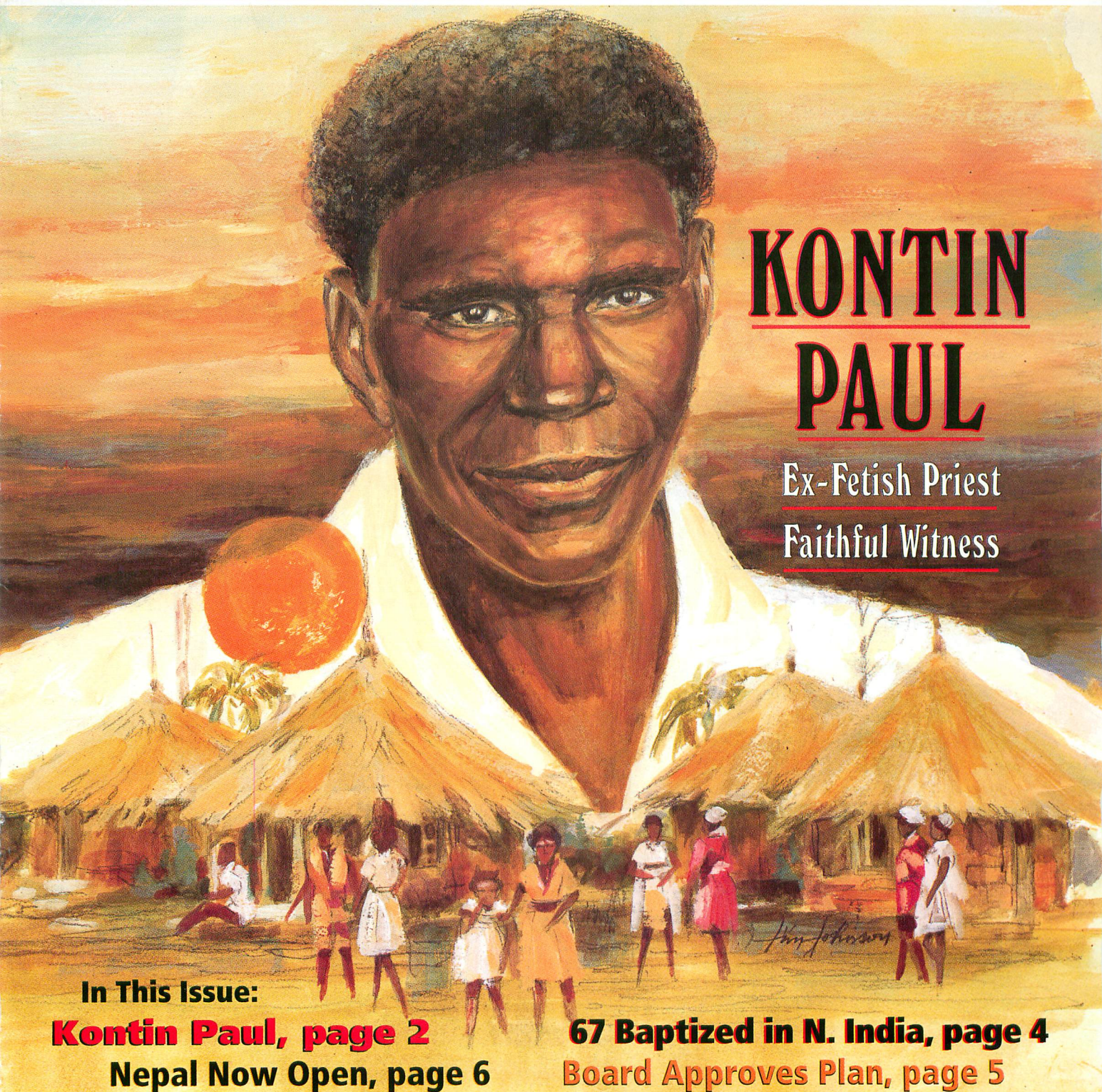


HEART BEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

MAY-
JUNE
1999

Showing God at work around the world



KONTIN PAUL

Ex-Fetish Priest

Faithful Witness

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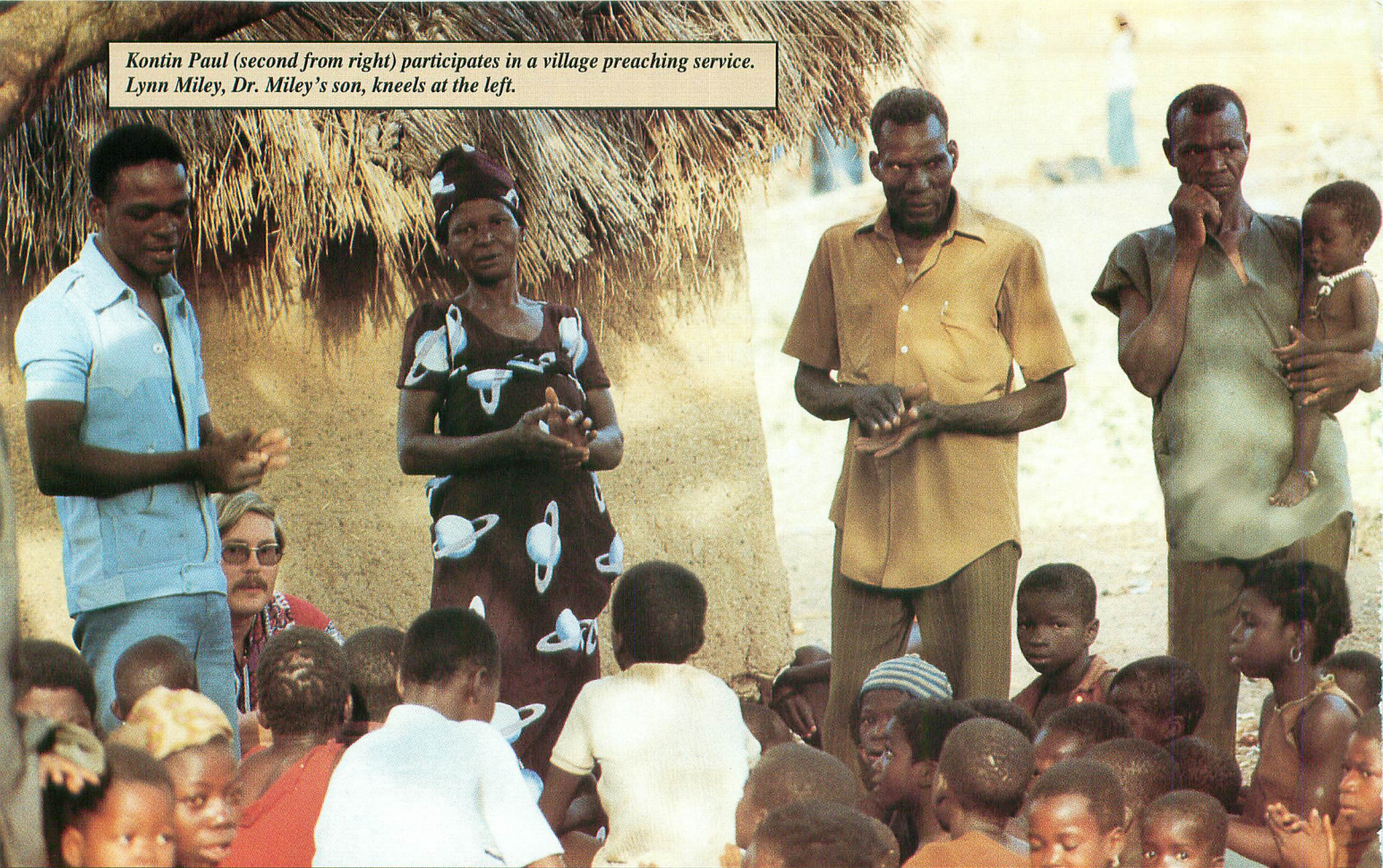
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Kontin Paul (second from right) participates in a village preaching service. Lynn Miley, Dr. Miley's son, kneels at the left.



KONTIN PAUL

Ex-Fetish Priest Faithful Witness

A Fetish Priest Meets Christ

By Dr. LaVerne Miley

Some 25 years ago Dissoumate, a fetish priest from the village of Tinkalamon, appeared at the Doropo clinic in Côte d'Ivoire to see the doctor. The fetisher had brought his son, weak and emaciated. The boy was a victim of schistosomiasis, a disease caused by an intestinal parasite. Dissoumate was told to bring his son to the clinic three times a week for one month for injections. He agreed.

During the following month the priest heard the gospel on each visit and it found lodging in his heart.

One morning the fetisher came to the clinic and asked to know more. He said God had spoken to him during the night and told him what he had heard at the clinic was God's way. Joseph, a clinic worker who spoke Dissoumate's native language, led him to accept Christ as his Savior.

He asked me, the doctor, to come to his village and watch him destroy his fetishes. The entire village fled in fear.

The priest announced that he was going to destroy his fetishes and fol-

low God's way. He asked me, the doctor, to come to his village and watch. The entire village fled in fear.

One by one, Dissoumate brought from his fetish house those objects which he had worshipped for so many years. Those made of clay he bashed in pieces; those made of wood he doused with kerosene and burned.

Last of all, he climbed to the top of his mud hut and clubbed to pieces a life-size clay image which he had called "Thangba Bikoun" (the son of God). When he finished, I said to him, "People have come to consult with you for a long time because you had power with the fetish. I want them to continue to come to you, because now you can point them to God."

Not long after that, I baptized Dissoumate in the creek nearby. He wanted to get rid of his heathen name, so he changed it to Paul. Soon he was known as Kontin Paul. In Lobi this means Paul the aged.

What a testimony Kontin Paul had! He would go from village to village telling his people about God. The son he had brought to the clinic also accepted Christ, took the name of Moise (*Moses*) and became a nurse in the Doropo clinic.

Dr. and Mrs. LaVerne Miley served in Côte d'Ivoire from 1960 to 1979. They are currently ministering to the Indians in Cortez, Col.

A Faithful Witness Greets the Lord

By Clint Morgan

On Thursday, November 19, 1998, I took Jean (our house-boy), his wife and child to the clinic in Doropo because the child, Gabriel, had been seriously ill for three days and was dehydrated.

While at Doropo I was informed that Kontin Paul, my African "Papa," was very sick and probably would not recover. I went to see him at the clinic, but he did not greet me with the usual warm smile and big hug. I got closer to him and spoke to him in Lobi, "In thi min four fi" ("My Papa, I greet you"). He lifted his hand slightly but did not give the cultural follow-up to my greeting. He simply declared, "My son, I am dying. Stay with me until I die and then preach at my funeral. You will preach at my funeral, won't you?"

I took his hand and assured him that I would have a message for his funeral. He didn't smile, he just nodded his head.

I had to return to Bouna that afternoon for classes at the institute. The nurse indicated Kontin Paul could last hours or days. When I left, I knew it

was the last time I would see him alive.

Friday morning back in Bouna, I began working on the funeral message. It was strange, preparing a funeral message without knowing he had passed away.

I have never seen anyone, American or African, with his passion for lost souls.

Preparing the message brought back wonderful memories. I had spent many days with Kontin Paul witnessing in the markets in the Doropo area. I recalled the days he had stood for five to six hours preaching the Word without stopping. I have never seen anyone, American or African, with his passion for lost souls.

The aged man willingly had shared with me many insights into the Lobi culture. He had prayed the dedicatory prayer when we presented our son, Aaron, to the Lord, and our family will always remember the time he prayed and laid hands on Mrs. Miley. She was wonderfully healed! These joyous reflections accompanied moments of deep grief and tears.

Shortly after I finished gathering my thoughts, Amiezi Paul, our pastor, came to the house. He had received a message. Kontin Paul had died at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday.

Pastor Paul, Jerry Pinkerton and several Christian men went with me to Doropo. When we arrived, many people were gathered under a big mango tree. A few were mourning, but songs

of worship and praise flowed from the Christians.

As I stepped up to see Kontin's body I was overcome with grief over our loss. Yet, I knew he was alive with the Lord!

Jean Daniel, from the Doropo church, was one of the last people to speak to Kontin Paul. The dying preacher had made one last request of Jean: "Would you sing me a song and preach me a sermon?" Jean was so moved he could not speak, but he played a cassette tape of Christian songs in Lobi to the dying soldier of the cross.

Jean Daniel said he had never seen anyone die so content. It was a magnificent testimony of Kontin Paul's walk with God.

It has been over 12 years since I heard the former fetisher preach, yet his words were deeply planted in my heart. His messages were like those of a prophet of God. He spoke clearly of the sins of the people, yet offered hope to all who repented.

In my message that day, I shared what I imagined it must have been like in heaven on Thursday evening. In my mind I could see Kontin Paul meeting and greeting the Lord in his Lobi tongue, "Heh Thangba, Kontin Paul n four fi nin dintino" (Hey God, Kontin Paul is greeting you on this night).

I concluded the message with a challenge to all those listening: "If you want to see Kontin Paul again, you must go to his Father's house."

Clint Morgan and his wife, Lynette, currently work with the Bible institute program in Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire.



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Deborah St. Lawrence, *Editorial Assistant*
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Jim Johnson, *Artist*

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The congregation of Immanuel FWB Church in South India gathers on the hillside by the church with General Director James Forlines, missionary Carlisle Hanna and Sherwood Lee, board member from South Carolina.

Geneva Poole Undergoes Surgery, Begins Therapy

Geneva Poole, wife of missionary Bobby Poole, underwent surgery for breast cancer on April 2 in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil. Surgery was considered successful and Bobby reported Geneva is recovering well. Since some lymph nodes were affected, chemotherapy started May 4. Christians were urged to pray for her complete recovery.

67 Baptized at Annual North India Conference

The annual conference of Free Will Baptists in North India was held at Sonapurhat March 4-7 with approximately 2,000 Christians in attendance. Sixty-seven people followed the Lord in baptism at the conference. This made a total of almost 400 baptized in India since the last annual conference.

Attending and speaking at the conference were James Forlines, general director of Foreign Missions, and Sherwood Lee, board member. The two men, accompanied by Carlisle Hanna, met nearly 70 national pastors, evangelists and partners. They also participated in a special wreath-laying ceremony at the grave of Marie Hanna and visited the hostel where 45 boys are being trained.

The two men also visited Nepal and South India. They witnessed 35

people being baptized in South India and met with the Immanuel FWB Church in Kotagiri, the first church established by pioneer missionary Laura Belle Barnard.

Forlines and Lee left the United States on March 1 and returned on March 24.

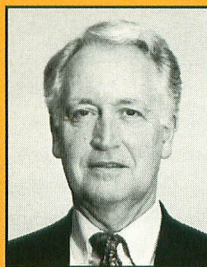
Joint Session in Atlanta to Feature Ron Owens

A joint conference for world outreach will be held at the National Association in Atlanta, Ga., on Tuesday morning at 8:30 in the Imperial Ballroom of the Marriott Marquis Hotel. Sponsoring the conference will be the departments of Home and Foreign Missions.

Reverend Ron Owens of the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention will be the guest speaker. He is an associate of Henry Blackaby, author of the study, *Experiencing God*. He assists in providing consultative leadership for the development of prayer for revival and spiritual awakening.

The conference will focus on the theme, "United in Vision Through Prayer."

A special prayer guide is being developed by the two departments



Ron Owens

and will be distributed to those attending the conference. Additional copies of the guide will be available at cost from the Foreign Missions and Home Missions booths.

Winona Riggs Rests With the Lord

Winona Mae Gates Riggs died on March 23, 1999, in Cookeville, Tenn. She was the wife of Raymond Riggs, former general director of Foreign Missions.

Mrs. Riggs had been seriously ill for some time and required constant attention. She suffered from Lewy-Body, a combination of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease.

A memorial service was held on March 26 in the Cookeville Free Will Baptist Church. Dr. Ken Riggs brought the message, "A Tribute to My Mother." Dr. Charles Thigpen and Pastor Sterl Paramore of the Cookeville church also participated.

Raymond Riggs served as general director of Foreign Missions from 1950 to 1959. Raymond and Winona are the parents of missionary Steve Riggs in Nantes, France. Steve, Becky and their children were able to attend the funeral.

Evangelistic Campaign Held in Bondoukou

A three-day evangelistic campaign was held April 5-7 in Bondoukou, Côte d'Ivoire. The campaign was sponsored by the Free Will Baptist National Youth Association in Côte d'Ivoire.

A special team of youth from many FWB churches throughout Côte d'Ivoire arrived on April 5. They did door-to-door visiting and witnessing on April 6 and 7. Each night featured an open-air service with preaching and a film.

Latest reports indicate 70 young people and adults and 26 children made decisions for Christ during the campaign. Follow-up teams began working with the new Christians on April 8.

Board Approves New Support Services Plan

The Board of Foreign Missions met in Antioch, Tenn., April 20-22, the first session since James Forlines became general director. Action included the approval of a restructuring of the support services staff and operation.

Allysa Hampton of Nashville, Tenn., and Wes Holland of Tulsa, Okla., were approved to serve as overseas affiliates to work with English Language Institute.

The staff was authorized to pursue the feasibility of opening a work in Nepal.

A Korean budget and plan of action was approved along with an invitation for four Korean representatives to attend the National Association in Atlanta. The general director was authorized to continue investigation and research for the purchase of a building to house a Bible institute in Seoul, Korea.

The following dates were set for 1999 and 2000: Foreign Missions Retreat, August 9-12, 1999; Leadership Conference and Board Meeting, December 6-10, 1999; Annual Board Meeting in 2000 (yet to be determined); and Foreign Missions Retreat, August 7-11, 2000.

All current Board officers and committees were retained.

The Board adopted a proposed operational and VISION Fund budget of \$8,218,185 to be approved at the National Association for the year 2000.

Aycock Baptizes Nine Converts in Barbacena

Missionary Bobby Aycock reported in April that he baptized nine people on April 18 in Barbacena, Brazil.

"We baptized three couples. One couple was the parents of the husbands of the other two couples," says Bobby. "They only lack a daughter and her family for the entire family to be converted."



Linda Callaway (right) teaches pastors' wives about false expectations during a special seminar in Cuba.

Callaways Conclude Short Assignment in Cuba

Missionaries Ronald and Linda Callaway returned to Panama on March 2 following a two-month stay in Cuba where they taught at the Cedars of Lebanon Seminary.

Ron taught evangelism and doctrine of the Holy Spirit while Linda taught the seminary students English. Linda also gave a seminar to the pastors' wives concerning certain false expectations regarding success in the ministry.

TEAM Spain '99 to Involve 11 Teens

Eleven teenagers are scheduled to go to Spain June 22-July 7 as part of TEAM (Teens Equipped and Active in Missions) to minister to churches and people in and around the Madrid area.

According to TEAM Spain '99 coordinator Ken Eagleton, the group will be led by Terry and Jamie Eagleton of Nashville, Tenn.

The group will gather in Nashville for a week of training at Free Will Baptist Bible College June 14-22 prior to their departure.

Field Chairmen, Board and Staff Meet

Field chairmen from seven countries were joined by Dr. John Chang, mission consultant/coordinator for Korea and the Pacific Rim countries, as they met with the Board of For-

eign Missions and the administrative staff in Antioch, Tenn., in April. The field chairmen met with the staff April 14-16 and with the Board April 19 and 20.

The leaders discussed their role as missionary facilitators, the mission policy on subsidization of national workers and programs, the implications of Y2K, current tax laws and other subjects pertinent to their field operations.

Those attending included Jim Cowart of Brazil, Clint Morgan of Côte d'Ivoire, Jerry Gibbs of France, Ken Bailey of Japan, Stan Bunch of Panama, Jeff Turnbough of Spain and Dennis Owen of Uruguay.

News Capsules

Spain—New missionaries Tim Johnson and Anthony Edgmon were selected to participate in a celebration on April 23 in Madrid, Spain, in memory of Miguel Cervantes (author of *Don Quixote*). Anthony gave a speech and Tim carried a wreath of flowers in the procession.

Panama—The annual youth camp in Panama was held in Santa Clara March 19-21 with approximately 50 young people attending. Three people made decisions for Christ during the camp.

Côte d'Ivoire—The Siago Free Will Baptist Church near Goumère, Côte d'Ivoire, has begun making adobe bricks for construction of a new church building. This church was

Continued →

NEWS IN REVIEW

—>Continued

started through an evangelistic campaign in March of 1998. The group is presently being led by Bible institute intern Phillipe Fakayé.

Spain—Two teenagers have begun taking Bible studies with Jeff Turnbough. Tim Johnson says, "This is an answer to prayer." The boys are possibly future leaders in the church.

China—The church in China has ex-

GIFTS FROM THE HEART

These special gifts were received in February and March:

Donor	In Memory of
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Hall, Jr. Smyrna, Tenn.	Carl Houk
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hughes Antioch, Tenn.	Katie Lynch
Dr. and Mrs. Paul Gentuso Antioch, Tenn.	Bob Lundquist
Tanya Hart Ayden, N.C.	Minnie Wainright

The following gave special gifts in memory of
Curro Rice Pinson:

Mitchel and Rebecca Beverly Hermitage, Tenn.	Michael and Myra Dees Columbia, S.C.
Mr. and Mrs. Al Beverly Hermitage, Tenn.	John and Hazel Dees Sylacauga, Ala.
Max Horizons Realty Pensacola, Fla.	H. W. and Lorena Coble Whitsett, N.C.
Marvin and Elaine Wiggins Molino, Fla.	Carolyn Stacey Milton, Fla.
Hugh and Ann Walker Pensacola, Fla.	Iberia Mitchum Fayette, Ala.
Jessie and Thelma Odom Brevton, Ala.	Mr. and Mrs. Howard Logan Ms. Nell Long

The following gave special gifts in memory of
Winona Riggs:

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Crowson Nashville, Tenn.	Peace FWB Church Morristown, Tenn.
Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Read Pleasant View, Tenn.	First FWB Church Sparta, Tenn.
Mr. and Mrs. Michael England Joelton, Tenn.	Mr. C. D. Farley Cookeville, Tenn.
Harper Road FWB Church Joelton, Tenn.	Berea Ministries, Inc. c/o Howard Munsey Morristown, Tenn.

Donor	In Honor of
Tanya Hart Ayden, N.C.	Chester and Bertha Stox

Clip and Mail Coupon

Special Gifts

Amount \$ _____ Date _____

Given in memory/honor of _____

Given by: Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please send memorial/honor card to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



This Free Will Baptist congregation stands with James Forlines and Sherwood Lee in front of the church building in Nepal where 52 believers currently worship.

ploded from five million to an estimated 50 million believers in the past 20 years. Almost 30,000 people daily become believers.

Brazil—Construction of the Second Free Will Baptist Church in Uberlandia, Brazil, started on April 5.

Japan—Eddie Payne, communications assistant, left for Japan on April 20 to help the Japan field council develop their field strategy. He is scheduled to return to the United States on May 10.

Missouri—Terry and Deloris Vandivort of Wentzville, Mo., will depart around the first of June to work with Kevin Stacy among unreached peoples. They are to return to the United States in mid-July.

India—After over 45 years in India without a telephone, missionary Carlisle Hanna finally has service. E-mail is expected to follow soon. Communications are definitely changing in India.

New Address :

Please send only letters, cards and no packages to Kevin Stacy at the following address:

Postfach 126
Attn: Kevin Stacy
CH-5022 Rombach
Switzerland

Nepal Open 50 Years After Woolseys' Try

Fifty years after Paul and Nell Woolsey unsuccessfully sought to minister in Nepal, Free Will Baptists now have seven Nepali churches and doors appear open to receive missionaries.

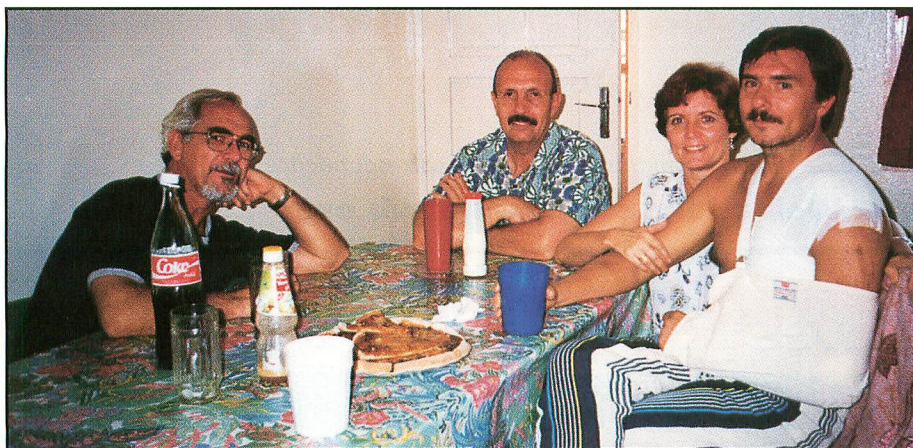
On March 12 General Director James Forlines and Sherwood Lee, board member, visited a Nepalese church which had 52 believers. Indian pastors and evangelists have been crossing the border to evangelize even though in danger since conversion and Christian witness previously have been illegal.

Norwood Gibson, Former Board Member, Dies

Norwood Gibson Sr., 71-year-old former member of the Board of Foreign Missions, died on April 22 at Carolina Hospital System in Florence, S.C. Reverend Gibson had been under treatment for heart problems and cancer over several



Norwood Gibson



Mike Cousineau (right) is encouraged by his wife, Deleen, and co-laborers Clint Morgan and Jerry Pinkerton as he recovers from a motorcycle accident.

years. The cancer became invasive, leading to cardiac arrest.

Brother Norwood founded the Free Will Baptist Bible Church (now known as South Oak FWB Church) in Florence and pastored the church for 19 years. He served 17 years as promotional secretary of the South Carolina State Association and 12 years on the Board of Foreign Missions.

Gibson leaves his wife, Molly, one son and one daughter and four grandchildren.

"Renaissance France '99" to Study French Culture

Eleven students from Free Will Baptist Bible College will make up Team "Renaissance France '99" which is scheduled to leave for France May 18 and return to the United States on June 16.

The group will be led by K.C. and Liz Kohn of Nashville, Tenn. Joining them will be Jeremy Riggs, Kim Douglas, Jackie Rasar, Shane Davison, Sara Watson, Matt McAfee, Kathy Britton, and Timothy Crowson.

Missionary Patsy Vanhook will serve as coordinator for these students as they study French culture, language and religion and participate in practical assignments. The team will spend two weeks each in Nantes and St. Nazaire.

Cousineau Mending After Cycle Accident

Missionary Mike Cousineau is gradually recovering following a motorcycle accident on February 25 near Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire. Four ribs and his collar bone were fractured in the accident.

A recent e-mail message reported the ribs were healing well and physical therapy had begun.

Cousineau says, "Although the collar bones (plural since it was broken in three places) are not aligned correctly, they seem to be healing as they are pieced together. If any corrective surgery is to be done, it will be determined stateside."

The Cousineaus are scheduled to begin stateside assignment in July.

First Café y Algo Más Successful in Villalba

The first meeting of Café y Algo Más (Coffee and Something More) in Villalba, Spain, was held on March 7 with 90 people on hand, including men, women and children.

While the children watched Christian videos the adults enjoyed a program including a piano/violin duet by two young ladies from the church, a guest guitarist, and a woman psychiatrist who spoke on family relationships. She ended with her personal testimony and

how she came to know the Lord.

According to missionary Sam McVay, "The whole purpose of Café y Algo Más is to present the gospel to unbelievers."

FINANCIAL BEAT

Through March 1999

Income for February	\$ 344,033.66
Income for March	373,186.62
Total income through March	973,477.80
Projected income through March	1,585,542.78
Total expenses through March	1,462,478.88
Total 1999 Budget (including VISION projects)	\$6,342,171.10

These accounts are in the deficit:

Bailey	\$ 5,553.60	McFall	\$ 241.52
Beck	873.39	Morgan, A	1,803.58
Bowerman	6,263.88	Owen	12,849.11
Bryan	3,674.97	Robinson	1,834.78
Callaway	3,237.05	Snow	7,396.01
Church Planters		Sturgill	3,561.37
Ekaterinburg	4,097.75	Teague	4,793.52
Kamyshlov	2,817.53	Russian	
Kopeysk	6,365.85	Pastor's Conf	14,742.06
Kurgan	4,693.84	Third World	
Noyabrisk	156.43	Development	1,368.20
Troitsk	819.46	Support Services	178,171.05
Cowart	11,379.98	Info Promo	49,731.47
Cuba	6,687.52	VISION	
Deeds	7,412.17	Villalba Building	1,356.75
Eagleton Sr	9,214.64	India Church	18,384.74
Gibbs	5,883.63	ICA Dorm Proj	6,018.65
Holland, C	6,208.81	ICA Apartment	82.40
Total			\$410,999.27

These accounts are in the black but in serious need:

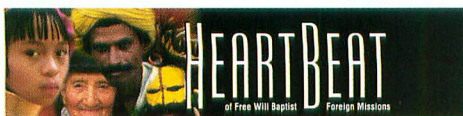
Nichols	\$ 762.32	Bishop	\$ 379.99
Combs	25.16	Dr. Chang	2,117.02

STATES IN ACTION

State	1999 Goal	Goal Thru January	Contributions Thru January
Alabama	\$ 245,000.00	\$ 61,250.00	\$ 85,543.39
Arkansas	355,000.00	88,750.00	48,612.99
Arizona	11,000.00	2,750.00	1,020.00
California	75,000.00	18,750.00	12,925.50
Canada	11,000.00	2,750.00	2,709.26
Colorado	13,000.00	3,250.00	858.35
Florida	142,000.00	35,500.00	24,157.84
Georgia	250,000.00	62,500.00	44,236.80
Idaho	7,500.00	1,875.00	1,173.79
Iowa	3,000.00	750.00	595.15
Illinois	175,000.00	43,750.00	35,553.46
Indiana	50,000.00	12,500.00	8,331.84
Hawaii	1,000.00	250.00	200.00
Kansas	12,000.00	3,000.00	3,080.71
Kentucky	90,000.00	22,500.00	13,844.26
Louisiana	2,500.00	625.00	390.00
Maryland	60,000.00	15,000.00	15,212.93
Michigan	210,000.00	52,500.00	21,535.01
Missouri	460,000.00	115,000.00	85,415.89
Mississippi	90,000.00	22,500.00	8,237.72
Montana	3,000.00	750.00	525.00
North Carolina	685,000.00	171,250.00	156,501.23
Nebraska	1,500.00	375.00	1,095.00
New Mexico	5,000.00	1,250.00	776.00
*Northeast Assn	4,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
**Northwest Assn	11,000.00	2,750.00	1,832.17
Ohio	200,000.00	50,000.00	26,478.45
Oklahoma	505,000.00	126,250.00	73,254.05
Pennsylvania	1,000.00	250.00	30.00
South Carolina	375,000.00	93,750.00	63,253.76
Tennessee	850,000.00	212,500.00	146,199.25
Texas	95,000.00	23,750.00	13,407.38
Virginia	100,000.00	25,000.00	14,091.70
Virgin Islands	4,000.00	1,000.00	533.52
West Virginia	130,000.00	32,500.00	30,630.97
FWB Foundation	27,500.00	6,875.00	1,643.78
Miscellaneous	135,821.10	33,955.28	1,073.49
WNAC	170,000.00	42,500.00	26,099.47
Totals	\$ 5,565,821.10 +	\$ 1,391,455.28 +	\$ 971,060.11

*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



P.O. Box 5002

Antioch, TN 37011-5002

Board of Foreign Missions: Bill Jones, chairman; Milton Worthington, vice-chairman; David Shores, secretary; Bill Reagan, David Williford, Bill Van Winkle, Sherwood Lee, Douglas Little, Terry Eagleton.

Administrative Staff: James Forlines, general director; Fred Warner, director of stateside ministries; Don Robirds, director of communications; Jimmy Aldridge, overseas secretary; Robert Conley, treasurer.

Please clip and mail this label with all correspondence.

Web address: www.nafwb.org



Forlines' Focus

By James Forlines, General Director

UNITING OUR VISION THROUGH PRAYER

In Acts chapter 1 we have the record of one of the most important events in history. Jesus Christ had been on earth in the form of a man for over 30 years. Through His sinless life, death and resurrection He had prepared the way for mankind to be reconciled to God. At this point He was physically departing the earth to ascend to the right hand of the Father.

Verse 9 says, "*And when he had spoken these things . . . he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight* [emphasis mine]." This last command has become our first concern. We commonly refer to it as the Great Commission. We are commanded and challenged to be witnesses "*both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*"

In organizing to accomplish this call, Free Will Baptists created two separate departments: Home Missions and Foreign Missions. The

charge of directing missions efforts in continental North America was given to Home Missions, while missions efforts outside of these boundaries were to be directed by Foreign Missions.

Misquoted Verse

Unfortunately, the Acts 1:8 verse is often misquoted. Some seem to read it as saying, "*either in Jerusalem, or Judea, or Samaria, or the uttermost part of the earth.*" Others seem to think it says, "*first in Jerusalem, then Judea, then Samaria, then the uttermost part of the earth.*" Yet, Jesus could not have been more clear. He said, "*both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*" It is not "*either . . . or,*" or "*first . . . then,*" but "*both . . . and.*" **He gave only ONE commission!**

Trymon Messer, general director of Home Missions, and I have been talking and praying together about the interdependency between our departments. The Board of Foreign Missions has adopted a strategy which we hope will double our missions presence in the world in 10 years. This will never be accomplished without a strong home base here in North America. We simply cannot do the job without the aid and

support of our Home Missions Department.

We, in Foreign Missions, want to help facilitate the opportunities home missionaries need in order to be involved in reaching the "*uttermost part of the earth.*" We are co-laborers, not competitors. We are partners in the one commission given by our Lord.

Need Divine Intervention

Not only do we need each other, we desperately need divine intervention. This is the purpose behind the joint conference scheduled this year at our National Association in Atlanta. Home and Foreign Missions are jointly sponsoring "*Uniting Our Vision Through Prayer*" on Tuesday, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Reverend Ron Owens (an associate of Henry Blackaby, author of *Experiencing God*) will be sharing with us the importance of prayer in accomplishing God's heart to reach the world.

We are expecting this time to be a defining moment in the future of Free Will Baptist missions efforts. Begin praying now that God will meet with us in a powerful way to propel us to greater levels of effectiveness than we have ever known.

James Forlines