

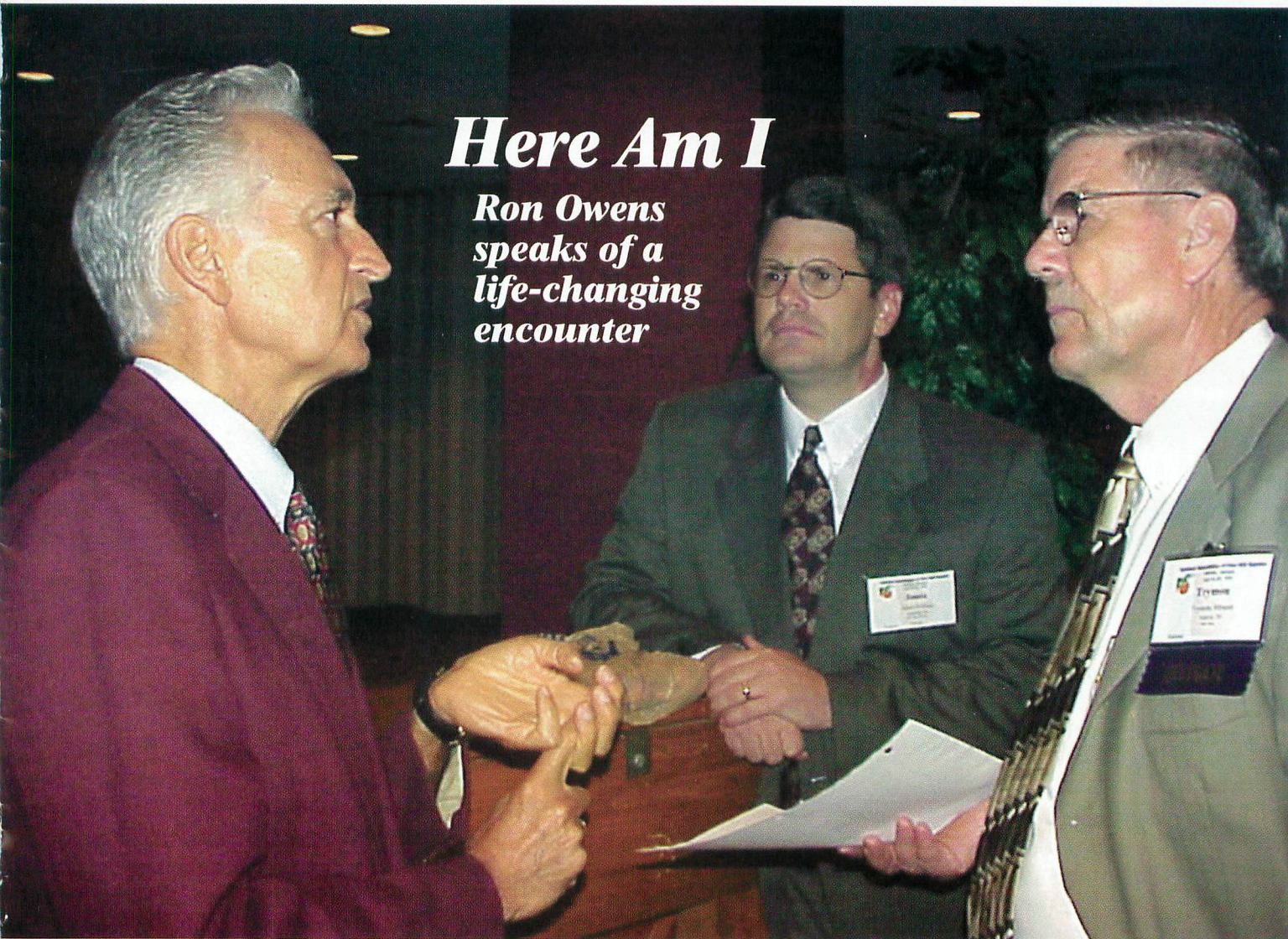


HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
1999

Showing God at work around the world



Here Am I

*Ron Owens
speaks of a
life-changing
encounter*

United in Vision Through Prayer

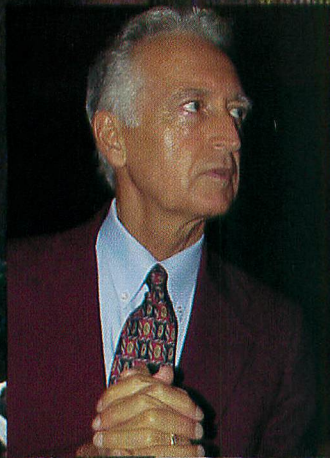
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Here Am I

By Ron Owens

Ron Owens spoke to a crowd of approximately 800 people at a joint conference sponsored by Foreign and Home Missions during the National Association in Atlanta.

United in Vision Through Prayer

God is moving among His people in a fresh way! He, who has always been on mission, is calling out a people to join Him in reaching a lost world.

Andrew Murray, in his book **The Coming Revival**, says:

"It is a heart-searching truth that the union between God and His people is so close, and that their partnership in the work of saving a lost world is so real, that their performance of their part is as indispensable as God's Therefore a revived church is the only hope for a dying world. True revival means nothing less than a revolution, casting out the spirit of worldliness and selfishness, and making God and His love triumph in the heart and life."

In Isaiah 6:1-9 the record of Isaiah's call takes place in the context of a worship encounter, which changed Isaiah's life forever.

One who has encountered God, or who regularly encounters God, in worship, will serve Him out of devotion and love.

Church leaders today face the challenge of leading their people to a worship encounter with God that is life-changing, an encounter that ultimately results in a **"Here am I; send me."** In today's church we probably do a lot more celebrating than worshipping. A backsliding Christian or an unbeliever might actually enjoy what we call worship today. I do not believe, how-

ever, that an unbeliever or backsliding Christian can enjoy "true worship."

Worship is the fuel that drives missions. An encounter with God such as Isaiah had results in a passion for God and for His desires. Isaiah was motivated to cry out "Here am I" because he had seen the glory of God. Our view of God will determine how we respond to Him. Isaiah had a vision of God's throne. True worship begins with the throne. We acknowledge that all authority belongs to the One on the throne. John saw this throne in Revelation chapter four.

When we worship we acknowledge that God is our Creator, yet the worship and adoration in Revelation four and five is not only for God's activity in creation. It grows in colossal crescendo as they worship God for His activity in redemption. They are

worshipping a Lamb, one with scars in His hands, His feet, His side, His brow.

As we worship, we also must respond to His authority by yielding and submitting ourselves to the One we are worshipping. True worship causes us to abdicate our personal rights. One who has encountered God, or who regularly encounters God in worship, will serve Him out of devotion and love. When things get tough the worshiper never turns back. Neither Isaiah nor Paul ever did.

A lot of people begin well, but how many finish well? At the end of his life, the Apostle Paul said, *"I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."* Jesus said, *"I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do."*

Some characteristics in our Lord's life should enable us to stay fresh and focused in the task to which we have been called:

Jesus was a man under orders.

Jesus said, "I must be about my Father's business. I came not to do my own will, but the will of Him who sent me." We also are men and women under orders, and our assignment bears eternal consequences.

Jesus knew exactly what His orders were.

Jesus had come to seek and to save those who were lost. He had come as a ransom for many. He had come that they might have life.

Jesus could not be distracted.

The Lord was not distracted by His disciples. Numbers did not dazzle Him, large crowds did not impress Him, and small crowds did not discourage Him. Jesus did not even let ministry opportunities distract Him.

Jesus never allowed a single root of bitterness into His life.

Strained relationships in churches are so often the reason God is unable to bless as He wishes. I wonder how

often God is saying, "Oh my children, just get blessable!" Our very witness to a lost and dying world is authenticated by the way we love each other.

Jesus refused to be influenced by what people said about Him.

Jesus finished the assignment because He would not allow anything people said to deter Him from completing the work. He never lost sight of the goal. Discouragement can sidetrack us. The praise and adulation of man can be just as great an obstacle, but the only applause we are meant to seek is the applause of nail-scarred hands.

Jesus was aware of the limited time He had.

Jesus did not waste His time. Yet, He always had time to withdraw and get alone with His Father. Jesus knew when one works beyond his prayer life, he is a sitting duck for the enemy.

Jesus was in constant contact with the Father.

Prayer was not just some activity He did. It was a life He lived. He knew the Source of power, wisdom, and anointing. It was not in much doing, it was in much abiding.

We believe in prayer. We preach about it, sing about it, write about it, and we talk about it. But compared to the rest of our lives, how important is it *really* in today's church? The church at Sardis had the reputation of being alive, while in God's sight it was dead. How can we expect to be greatly used of God if we neglect the main thing?

Let me conclude by asking two questions in light of what I have



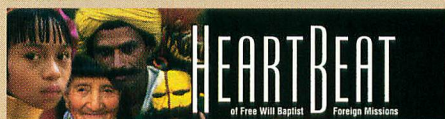
The new Free Will Baptist World Prayer Guide

The World Prayer Guide is available for \$.50 each from Home or Foreign Missions at P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002. For shipping and handling include \$3.00 for 6 to 50 copies and \$5.00 for 51 or more. Orders of 100 or more receive a 20 percent discount. Allow two weeks for delivery.

stated: (1) Is your personal prayer-life correspondent with the assignment or vision God has given you? (2) Is the prayer-life of your church, your mission, your ministry, adequate for the task God has assigned?

Remember, no person is greater than his or her prayer life.

Ron Owens serves under the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He is an associate of Henry Blackaby, author of the study, *Experiencing God*, used widely by churches and missionaries around the world. This is a resumé of a message he delivered during a session at the National Association in Atlanta co-sponsored by Foreign and Home Missions under the title, "United in Vision Through Prayer." The new *Free Will Baptist World Prayer Guide* was introduced during the session.



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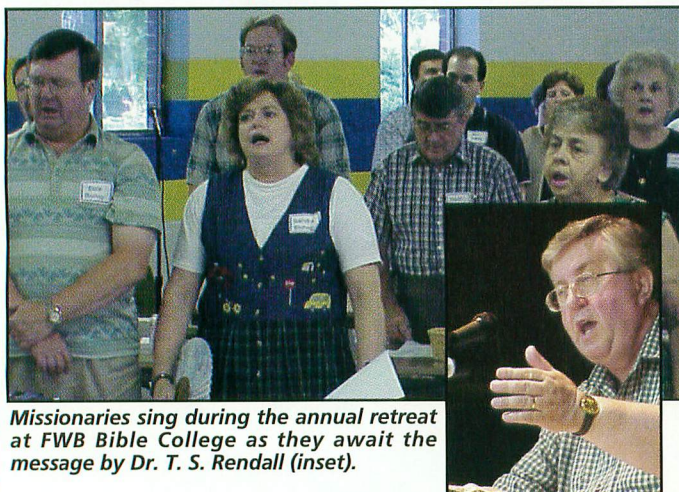
September-October 1999

Don Robirds, Editor

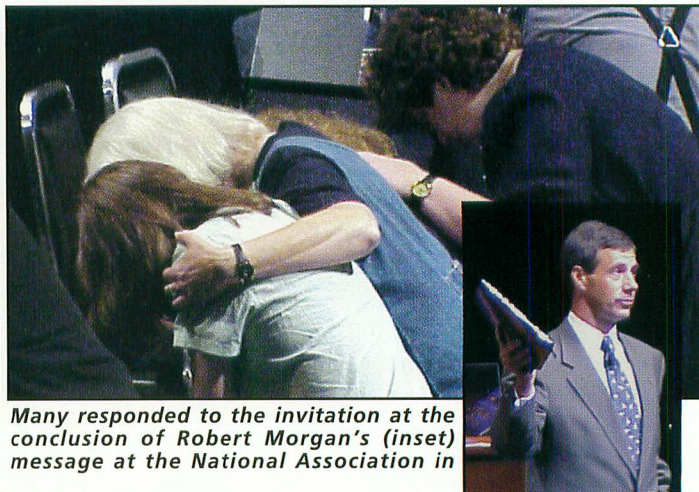
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Missionaries sing during the annual retreat at FWB Bible College as they await the message by Dr. T. S. Rendall (inset).



Many responded to the invitation at the conclusion of Robert Morgan's (inset) message at the National Association in

Foreign Missions Retreat Features Dr. T. S. Rendall

The annual Foreign Missions retreat was held August 9-12 at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., with missionaries, board members and the Foreign Missions staff. The guest speaker for this year's retreat was Dr. Ted S. Rendall, chancellor emeritus of Prairie Bible Institute in Toronto, Canada.

Rendall spoke to the group regarding personal devotions, resolving interpersonal conflicts, and other Bible themes. His wife, Hester, spoke to the women during one session.

Dr. Rendall has had an extensive pastoral ministry, as well as teaching and administrative responsibilities at Prairie Bible Institute. He began at Prairie in 1956.

158 Delegates Attend Côte d'Ivoire National

The Ivorian National Association of Free Will Baptists was held August 9-11 at Goumère, Côte d'Ivoire, with 158 registered delegates.

According to missionary Carol Pinkerton, one important action of the association was the agreement to assist the newly formed FWB group at Bouake. Kouakou Tah George was chosen to be the

leader of this group. The association will help him and his family financially, and each African Free Will Baptist is hoping to give 500 cfa (francs) toward this project.

"We're thrilled and excited about this first missionary effort by the Ivorian National Association," says Carol.

TEAM Spain '99 Helps Missionary Evangelism

Eleven teenagers from eight states left Nashville on June 22 for Madrid, Spain, for two weeks of ministry and manual labor with TEAM Spain '99. TEAM directors Terry and Jamie Eagleton of Nashville, Tenn., accompanied them.

The teenagers gathered on the campus of Free Will Baptist Bible College on June 14 for eight days of intensive training.

In Spain, TEAM members received more orientation on the

cities where they were to minister. In Villalba they distributed 12,000 brochures, going to every home in the area. They also did some scraping and painting.

32 Foreign Missionaries Presented at National

Among the 6,592 people attending the National Association of Free Will Baptists in Atlanta, Ga., July 18-22, were 32 foreign missionaries and 88 home missionaries. These were presented to the audience on Wednesday evening during the regular missionary service. Introduced with them were three special guests from South Korea: Song Kyoan Shin, Han Na Shin, and Dr. Kang Sik Yoo.

The offering for the Wednesday evening service totaled \$22,000.

A Foreign Missions budget of \$6.1 million for the year 2000 was adopted, and James Forlines gave his first report since becoming general director of Foreign Missions. He reported a total of 1,703 people saved in 13 countries in 1998 as a part of FWB Foreign Missions efforts.

A joint Home and Foreign Missions conference on Tuesday morning, July 19, with Ron Owens challenged people to spiritual re-

TEAM Spain '99 members wait in the Nashville airport for their flight to Spain.



newal, prayer, and revival. Some 800 people crowded into the Imperial Ballroom for the special session (see page two).

Missionary Lynette Morgan gave a devotional during the Tuesday morning session of Women Nationally Active for Christ and Shirley Combs spoke at the 11:00 a.m. service.

The Wednesday night missionary service featured Pastor Robert Morgan of Donelson FWB Church in Nashville, Tenn. Many people responded to the challenge to commit themselves to the Lord and His service.

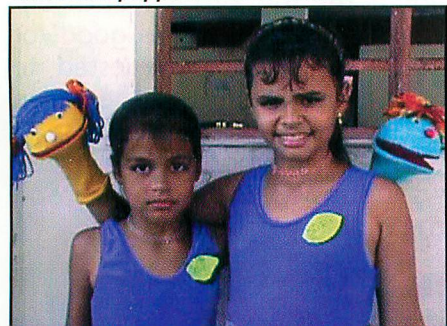
Bunches Minister in Two Camps in Cuba

Missionaries Stan and Brenda Bunch left the United States on July 27 for Cuba where they spent 11 days teaching and preaching in camps and churches. Stan and Brenda taught five sessions to 25 couples in a couples' retreat and six sessions to approximately 250 young people in a youth retreat at Cedars of Lebanon in Pinar del Rio. The theme for the programs was "Strengthening Friendship" from John 15:14.

Brenda taught two workshops for children's Sunday school teachers, one class on drama and mimes, and spent five days on children's classes.

Two people were converted and many young people made commitments to Christ. Stan and Brenda returned to the United States on August 10.

Two girls from Brenda Bunch's children's class show puppets used in class.



Veteran missionary Ken Eagleton Sr. died on August 26 in Nashville, Tenn.

C. Holland Reports Eight Saved at São José Work

"In the last 45 days, the Lord has saved four men and four teenage boys in our church," writes missionary Curt Holland from the São José work in Campinas, Brazil. Holland noted that three of the four men are married and their wives have not made public professions of faith. He urged people to pray for the salvation of Adriana, Primitiva, and Janaina.

Ken Eagleton Succumbs to Severe Lung Condition

Ken Eagleton Sr., veteran missionary to Brazil, passed away on August 26 at Centennial Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn., from idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, an extreme inflammation of the lungs.

According to Dr. Kenneth Eagleton Jr., who is on stateside assignment, "The inflammation eventually becomes scar tissue in the lungs. He had been on medication that kept the inflammation somewhat at bay until the second week of August. Since then the condition continued to worsen, making it difficult for him to breathe."

Ken is survived by his wife, Marvis; his four sons—Dr. Kenneth Jr., Terry, Andrew and Stephen; and one brother, Phillip, of Ft. Worth, Tex.

A memorial and thanksgiving service was held on Saturday af-

ternoon, August 28, at Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville. General Director James Forlines directed the service and Fred Warner, director of stateside ministries, preached the message.

A number of students who went to a mission field under the TEAM (Teens Equipped and Active in Missions) program, headed by Brother Eagleton, were present and sang in honor of Ken and the family. Several missionaries and former coworkers attended the service.

The family requested people to send gifts in lieu of flowers. Gifts should be designated in memory of Ken Eagleton Sr. and should be sent to Foreign Missions, P. O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002.

News Capsules

Nashville, Tenn.—Matt and Cristina Price left Nashville, Tenn., for France on September 2. They will be working with students while studying French at the University of Nantes. They also will help Steve and Becky Riggs in the Nantes church for the next 10 months. Jeremy Maxwell left August 19 for a four-month assignment with Jerry and Barbara Gibbs in St. Nazaire, France.

Brazil—Missionary Curt Holland reported 50 campers at Jabotical, Brazil, for the teen camp July 23-25. "Of the six teens we took," says Curt, "four were unsaved on Friday, but when we returned, all six were saved." Curt was the main speaker.

Nashville, Tenn.—Mary Belle Creech, mother of missionary Paul Creech, was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit at St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville on July 1 with severe abdominal pain. Her condition became critical, but at press time she was in a private

NEWS IN REVIEW

room and was continuing to improve.

France—MKs Daniel and Brian Riggs, Ryan Gibbs and Joel Teague attended Teen Street '99 in Germany July 30-August 7. Over 1,200 teens gathered for a time of spiritual renewal.

Norman, Okla.—Mike Cousineau, missionary to Côte d'Ivoire, was scheduled to have reconstructive surgery in Oklahoma on September 3 to repair and straighten his collarbone which healed incorrectly after his motorcycle accident near Bouna, Ivory Coast, in February.

Joplin, Mo.—Stan Bunch underwent surgery on August 23 at Freeman Hospital in Joplin, Mo., to repair a double hernia.

Brazil—Geneva Poole, who had surgery for breast cancer in April, had her sixth and final chemotherapy treatment on August 24. On August 30 she was scheduled to begin radiation therapy five times a week for five weeks.

GIFTS FROM THE HEART

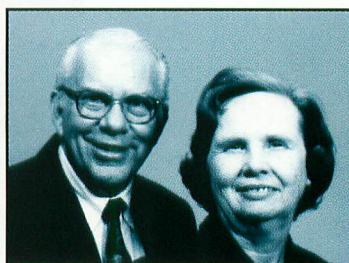
These special gifts were received in June and July:

Donor	In Memory of
West Chapel Ministries Cookeville, Tenn.	Winona Riggs
Central FWB Church Royal Oak, Mich.	Winona Riggs
Judy Delong Hager Hill, Ky.	James Crider
Porter FWB Church c/o Deena Armstrong Wheelerburg, Ohio	Corbia Yeley
Mrs. Imogene Pack Marysville, Ohio	Escrom Pack

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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 _____



Returning to their fields of service in September are (left to right) Stan and Brenda Bunch, Jim and Vicki Sturgill and Patsy Vanhook.

Two Couples and One Single Missionary Depart

Two missionary couples and one single missionary are to return to their fields of service following their stateside assignments.

Stan and Brenda Bunch are scheduled to depart for Panama near the end of September, Jim and Vicki Sturgill plan to return to Brazil on September 15 and Miss Patsy Vanhook is to leave for France on September 30.

Cuban Institute to Start Second Class

The Cedars of Lebanon Bible Institute in Cuba is to start a second class very soon. This will be the first time in many years that the school will have two classes going on concurrently. According to Cuban leaders, the demand for workers is too great to wait four years for a new class to start.

Currently nine students are studying on campus, and two students study through correspondence.

Villalba Book Fair Considered Successful

During two weeks in July the church of Villalba, Spain, was involved in a local book fair displaying Bibles, Christian books, cassettes, and children's books.

Visitors to the booth had the opportunity to participate in the "Question of the Day." If their name was drawn and they had

the correct answer, they won a prize: a nice Bible. More than 20 Bibles were given away to unbelievers during the fair, making it a positive effort.

40 People Attend Bible Conference

According to missionary Steve Lytle, the second Bible Conference in Panama was held on June 26 with approximately 40 people attending.

Ronald Callaway taught on the ministry of the Holy Spirit, Alex Mercado spoke on the subject of sin, and Steve Lytle dealt with the biblical theology and practice of worship.

E. Holland Victimized by Theft; Prayers Answered

Missionary Ernest Holland was victimized in late June when thieves broke into his car while he and the family were at prayer meeting in the youth center in Bondoukou, Côte d'Ivoire. "They stole our radio/tape player, some music cassettes, my driver's license, tool box, my prescription sunglasses and the mileage log book," writes Ernest.

Ernest was especially concerned about the loss of his French driver's license which was good for life. People were requested to pray for the return of the stolen documents. God responded and the following morning the license was returned. Someone left it on the Hollands' front porch.



The new Candida Free Will Baptist Church in Araras, Brazil, is now being occupied by the congregation.

Reid to Teach Classes in Russian Bible Institute



Dr. Garnett Reid

Dr. Garnett Reid, Professor of Old Testament at Free Will Baptist Bible College, will travel to Russia October 19 to teach in the first class of the new Ural Bible Institute in Chelyabinsk, Russia. He is to return to the United States on November 9.

Dr. Reid will teach Old Testament Survey and Theology over a 10-day period—approximately 80 class hours. Currently 25 students—all pastors or church workers—are scheduled to take the classes.

Free Will Baptists in the United States have been requested to furnish all theology and Bible teachers for the new institute.

Edgmons Announce Triplets on the Way

Anthony and Lea Edgmon, new missionaries to Spain, learned recently they are expecting triplets to be born near the end of January.

When Lea went to the doctor the first time, she found out she was expecting. When she went back the next time, she found out she was expecting twins. In early August when she and Anthony went to the doctor, the ultra-

sound showed two sacs, one with two babies and a second with another baby.

New Church Building in Araras Occupied

When Jim and Shirley Combs left for stateside assignment in May, the Candida Free Will Baptist Church in Araras, Brazil, was still meeting in a rented hall. On July 18 they moved into their new church building which was started under the direction of the Combs. Brazilians in the congregation are currently carrying on the ministry.

Although the building still needs finishing inside and out, it provides an auditorium which seats 300 people (with balcony), four classrooms, two bathrooms, and a baptistry. The move freed the two-year-old congregation from monthly rental fees which can be applied to the completion of the building.

According to the Combs, the foundation also has been laid for an educational building containing six more classrooms. Attendance averages about 60.

85 Kids Attend Minas Youth Camps in Brazil

According to David and Annette Aycok, a total of 85 people attended the Minas Gerais youth camps July 19-23 held at a Youth for Christ camp near Belo Horizonte. The evangelist was Pastor

Natã of Campinas. David served as camp director.

Two teens committed their lives to the Lord during the camp. The theme for the event was "Making a Difference in Your World."

FINANCIAL BEAT

Through July 1999

Income for June	\$ 387,344.66
Income for July	695,210.09
Total income through July	2,934,553.56
Projected income through July	3,699,599.81
Total expenses through July	3,048,992.06
Total 1999 Budget (including VISION projects)	\$6,342,171.10

These accounts are in the deficit:

Bailey	\$ 16,158.15	Holland, C.	\$ 3,844.21
Beck	873.39	Nichols	621.28
Bishop	4,708.12	Owen	12,276.91
Bowerman	3,311.63	Teague	9,000.00
Church Planters		Russian	
Ekaterinburg	3,565.24	Pastor's Conf.	15,178.07
Kamyslov	2,861.29	Support Services ..	193,135.86
Kopeysk	7,264.36	Info Promo	49,565.32
Kurgan	5,691.15	Third World	
Troitsk	2,136.65	Development	1,368.20
Combs	3,102.58	VISION	
Cowart	13,941.30	Abidjan Land/Ch	21,880.21
Deeds	6,701.92	IC Dorm Proj.	6,018.65
Eagleton Sr.	12,884.87	ICA Apartment ..	82.40
Gibbs	8,000.00	Villalba Building1	356.75
Total			\$405,528.51

These accounts are in the black but in serious need:

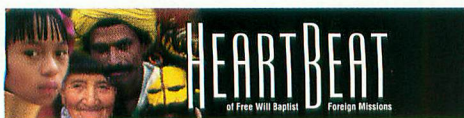
Turnbough	\$ 1,416.11	Snow	\$ 1,483.20
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STATES IN ACTION

State	1999 Goal	Goal Thru July	Contributions Thru July
Alabama	\$ 245,000.00	\$ 142,916.67	\$ 192,576.73
Arkansas	355,000.00	207,083.33	186,427.91
Arizona	11,000.00	6,416.67	3,018.33
California	75,000.00	43,750.00	28,834.99
Canada	11,000.00	6,416.67	5,096.66
Colorado	13,000.00	7,583.33	1,791.67
Florida	142,000.00	82,833.33	68,449.59
Georgia	250,000.00	145,833.33	123,940.91
Idaho	7,500.00	4,375.00	2,694.66
Iowa	3,000.00	1,750.00	985.34
Illinois	175,000.00	102,083.33	77,227.68
Indiana	50,000.00	29,166.67	21,115.59
Hawaii	1,000.00	583.33	200.00
Kansas	12,000.00	7,000.00	6,320.83
Kentucky	90,000.00	52,500.00	36,980.69
Louisiana	2,500.00	1,458.33	1,648.00
Maryland	60,000.00	35,000.00	38,362.09
Michigan	210,000.00	122,500.00	69,629.26
Missouri	460,000.00	268,333.33	231,616.22
Mississippi	90,000.00	52,500.00	291,850.55
Montana	3,000.00	1,750.00	1,225.00
North Carolina	685,000.00	399,583.33	372,656.49
Nebraska	1,500.00	875.00	3,443.10
New Mexico	5,000.00	2,916.67	1,532.13
*Northeast Assn ...	4,000.00	2,333.33	300.00
**Northwest Assn.	11,000.00	6,416.67	4,039.53
Ohio	200,000.00	116,666.67	82,258.00
Oklahoma	505,000.00	294,583.33	223,819.98
Pennsylvania	1,000.00	583.33	70.00
South Carolina	375,000.00	218,750.00	193,565.34
Tennessee	850,000.00	495,833.33	339,252.99
Texas	95,000.00	55,416.67	46,402.40
Virginia	100,000.00	58,333.33	39,525.99
Virgin Islands	4,000.00	2,333.33	1,753.95
West Virginia	130,000.00	75,833.33	82,129.85
FWB Foundation	27,500.00	16,041.67	25,135.84
Miscellaneous	135,821.10	79,228.98	22,855.94
WNAC	170,000.00	99,166.67	87,823.56
Totals	\$5,565,821.10+	\$ 3,246,728.96+	\$ 2,916,557.79

*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 statewide ministries; Don Robirds, director of communications; Jimmy Aldridge, overseas secretary; Robert Conley, treasurer.

Please clip and mail this label with all correspondence.



Forlines' Focus

By James Forlines, General Director

Change the World

About ten years ago I attended a "Change The World School of Prayer" at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Russellville, Ark. The speaker for the session was a representative of Every Home for Christ. A very clear challenge was presented to become a prayer warrior, not only for personal needs, but for the needs of the entire world.

Eight Countries a Day

At the session we were given a *World Prayer Map*. Using this prayer guide educated me more than ever to the tremendous spiritual needs of our world. I was able to pray for every country in the world each month by focusing on about eight countries a day. Listed beside each country was the estimated percentage of Christians in the country.

I specifically remember the countries listed for prayer on the eighth day of the month (the fifteenth and sixteenth days of the month in our **FWB World Prayer Guide*). They stretched across North Africa. The countries of

Western Sahara (0.00%), Canary Islands (0.00%), Morocco (0.00%), Algeria (0.07%), Tunisia (0.00%), Libya (0.09%), and Egypt (0.73%) caught my attention and burdened my heart. How could this area, with over 160,000,000 people be so barren as far as a gospel witness? I pray, "Please God, send forth laborers to these areas so untouched by the message of Christ." I don't think you can consistently pray for the world without God giving you a burden to be involved in some way to reach that world.

A Copy for Every Family

I was pastoring a local church there in Arkansas, and I personally purchased a copy of that *World Prayer Map* for every family in the church, as well as every teenager. We went through an orientation time on Sunday morning on how we as a church could corporately and effectively pray for the gospel to spread throughout the world. I believe this had a profound impact on our church, especially our teenagers. Our missions giving increased over 400 percent and several of our teenagers took advantage of mission trip opportunities provided by the Department of Foreign Missions. The church contributed all of the support needed for me, as pastor, to speak at the first FWB sponsored Pastor's Conference in Chelyabinsk, Russia.

I am pleased to announce that the

Free Will Baptist Home and Foreign Missions departments have joined together to publish a **Free Will Baptist World Prayer Guide*. Through the guided prayer time each day you pray for your Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the earth. I urge every Free Will Baptist to incorporate this guide into your prayer time. I urge every church leader to provide a copy for each family and young person in his church. As your church prays for the world, God will touch them with a desire to be involved in making a difference, both in their Jerusalem and all the way to the ends of the earth.

Order Prayer Guides

You may order these prayer guides from either the Home or Foreign Missions department (see page 3). They are 50 cents each plus shipping and handling. A 20 percent discount will be given to those who order over 100 copies. What could be accomplished if Free Will Baptists all around the country were praying each day for our local church as well as our missions efforts in North America and around the world? Only eternity will reveal the spiritual victories gained by prayer warriors on their knees.

James Forlines